

The logo committee released this new logo yesterday with three other variations for different occasions.

The new logo was designed to be “instantly recognizable” and uses gold rather than yellow.

BOV unveils logos

Board of Visitors releases replacement for banned feathers

By **JEFF DOOLEY**  
*Flat Hat Sports Editor*

Seated in cushioned leather chairs around a U-shaped, green marble table fit for a United Nations meeting, the College’s Board of Visitors, as well as other observers, were treated to something long awaited by fans, faculty and the student body: the College’s new logo.

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler, the chair of the logo committee, unveiled four new looks, all of them variations on a “W&M” design.

“[The new logo is] evolutionary, not revolutionary,” Sadler said.

The logos featured the colors green and gold, as opposed to the green and yellow color scheme that was used in the College’s logo since 1987.

“We think green and gold ought to be our colors,” Sadler said. “They have been our colors. And we had strayed way away from that.”

Noticeably absent from all four logos was any mention of the name “Tribe.”

“[That’s] because it’s an existing logo,” Athletic Director Terry Driscoll said, referring to the current script “Tribe” logo in use by many of the College’s sports teams.

The unveiling was preceded by comments from Rector Michael Powell and College President Gene Nichol. Both praised the work of the committee.

The next step in the process will be implementing the new logo, stamping it on everything from apparel to admissions materials to team uniforms. Nichol said that an implementation committee is being formed to handle this process.

Sadler said that one of the committee’s main goals was to create a look for the College that was distinctive, identifiable and very much its own, in the same way that Harvard University has the “H” logo.



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT  
Sam Sadler at yesterday’s BOV meeting.

See **LOGO** page 4

Hardcore protest

Student Environmental Action Coalition members shoot nude calendar to promote eco-awareness

By **ALEX GUILLÉN**  
*Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor*

Tell people that a campus environmental group is releasing a calendar, they shrug. Tell them it features nude students, their heads turn.

Members of the Student Environmental Action Coalition are starring in a nude calendar to raise environmental awareness. The calendar depicts students posing nearly nude, covered only with environmental gear.

Besides serving as Student Assembly President, Zach Pilchen ’09 is also an active SEAC member. Pilchen proposed the nude calendar to the group as a way to spread environmental awareness and as a fundraiser, citing as his inspiration the D-minus grade the College recently received in a campus environmental sustainability survey.

“Hopefully the calendar will raise quite a bit of money and, more importantly, spread awareness of environmental issues to students who may not have considered such things in the past,” Pilchen said, adding that the proceeds will help fund on-campus initiatives such as a student-run organic garden.

Pilchen was careful to point out that the calendar is meant to be more than cheap thrills.

“This is not simply a naked photo shoot, but part of an environmental awareness

campaign,” he said. “We’ve got artistic shots of students with compact fluorescent light bulbs, organic food, reusable cups, protest signs and a whole host of other things.”

Pilchen himself will be appearing in the calendar.

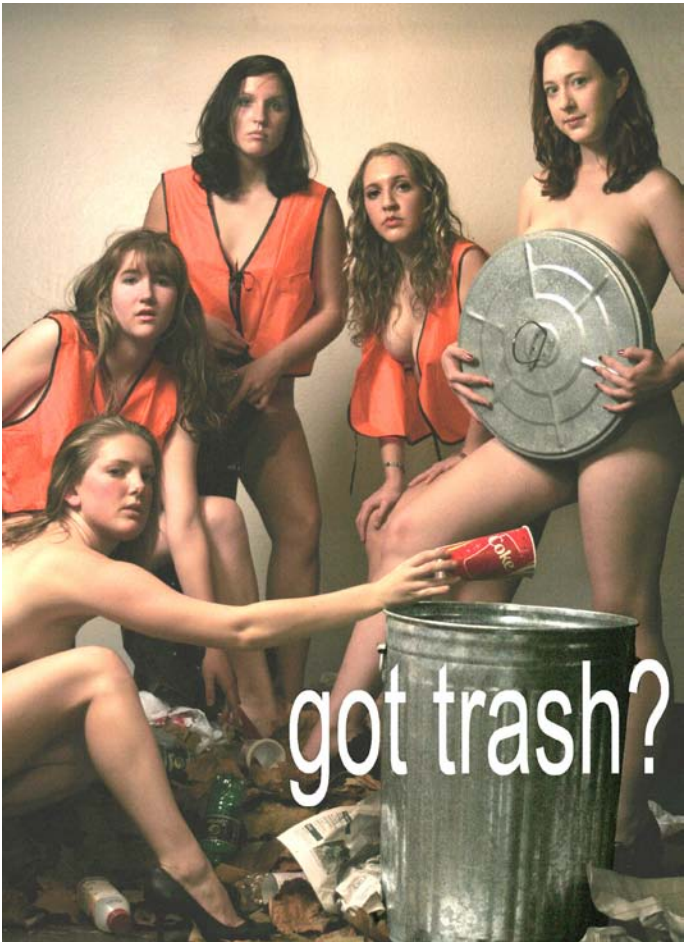
“I’ll be featured in the month on sustainable living, holding one of those little blue recycling bins and crushing

an aluminum can on my forehead,” Pilchen said.

Among the models, there was general excitement and interest in the project.

“When Zach Pilchen stood up at one of the meetings to talk about one of his ‘fantasies,’ I was intrigued,” Michelle McKenzie ’10 said. “When he

See **STUDENTS** page 4



COURTESY GRAPHIC — SEAC  
SEAC members model with recycling gear to promote environmentally-friendly initiatives on campus and to raise money.

Nearly half

of SA bills

not executed

By **RUSS ZERBO**  
*Flat Hat Staff Writer*

After the April 16, 2007, shooting at Virginia Tech, Student Assembly senators James Evans ’07 and Ryan Eickel ’10 sponsored the Virginia Tech Condolence Act. The Act “commits all energies now and in the future to aid Virginia Tech in rebuilding the spirits of its student body through dedication to make even these darkest times a learning experience for us all in the value of human life.”

However, both Evans and Eickel neglected to send a letter of condolence to Virginia Tech. When Senate Chairman Matt Beato ’09 contacted Eickel about this over the summer, he replied, “I realize [now] that simply creating a piece of legislation really had no effect, but I myself was still learning about how the senate functions.”

Eickel recently commented on the bill.

“It would have been more meaningful to send a

SA FACTS

- Bills passed this semester: 21
- % of bills passed this semester that have not been executed: 48%
- Number of incumbent senators who have not held their seats: 1

See **BILLS** page 4

Anatomy class dissects cadavers

Lab studies bodies donated to College

By **JESSICA TAUBMAN**  
*The Flat Hat*

Kinesiology is the study of human movement, and what better way to understand human anatomy than to see the muscles, nerves, organs and bones in a real human body?

For this purpose, the College offers kinesiology 303: human anatomy. Not for the faint of heart, this class offers students an opportunity to learn anatomy as they dissect the body of a deceased individual.

Usually, the College receives two bodies per semester from people who specified in their wills to be donated for the furthering of education and science. When the bodies come to the College, there is very little information provided about the individual. Their names remain anonymous and the cause of death is rarely given.

After the bodies have been studied, they are cremated and their ashes are placed in graves.

While other Virginia universities such as James Madison University and Old Dominion University also have human anatomy labs with bodies, most undergraduate universities do not allow the students to dissect and get hands-on experience; that privilege is usually reserved for graduate students.

Since it offers such a unique experience, the class has continued to gain popularity over the last 20 years at the College.

The class is open to all students — you do not have to be a kinesiology major to participate in the lecture or lab.

Regardless of a student’s major, the experience in human anatomy lab always proves to be unique

and fascinating, kinesiology professor Raymond McCoy said.

“Some are hesitant and unsure, and some are excited,” McCoy said. “However, all of the apprehension goes away within five to 10 minutes. It’s interesting to see the changes of the body in the lifetime — enlarged hearts, intestines, broken bones fused back together. You dissect an area and it doesn’t look like the pictures in the book.”

Jamie Weinfeldt ’04, a teaching assistant in the kinesiology department, still remembers her first experiences in the human anatomy lab.

“Both female cadavers had had hysterectomies and one male’s bicep muscle split into three heads

instead of the normal two,” Weinfeldt said. “It was crazy to see staples and old scars and look at the human form from a whole new perspective. I continue to be amazed and am constantly learning even as a teacher.”

This method of learning expands on information from the textbook and knowledge from the lecture, while preparing students for future dissection experiences.

“I think it’s the best way to learn anatomy, and I am privileged that I was able to do so as an undergrad,” Weinfeldt said. “It’s a great class and makes you appreciate life in a whole new manner.”



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT  
Students in human anatomy study bodies of individuals who donated their remains to science. The College usually receives two bodies every semester that students can dissect.



NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. 23185  
Editorial Dept. (757) 221-3281 • Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 • Fax (757) 221-3242

The Flat Hat — editor@flathatnews.com  
News — news@flathatnews.com • Variety — variety@flathatnews.com • Sports — sports@flathatnews.com  
Reviews — reviews@flathatnews.com • Opinions — opinions@flathatnews.com  
Advertising — ads@flathatnews.com

Andy Zahn, Editor-in-Chief  
Ashley Baird, Managing Editor • Chase Johnson, Executive Editor  
Patrick Bisceglia, Business Manager • Helen Chacon, Accountant

Austin Wright, News Editor  
Maxim Lott, Deputy News Editor  
Alice Hahn, Variety Editor  
Jeff Dooley, Sports Editor  
Conor McKay, Reviews Editor  
Joe Kane, Opinions Editor  
Vanessa VanLandingham, Copy Chief  
Spencer Atkinson, Photography Editor  
Alex Haglund, Photography Editor  
Max Fisher, Chief Staff Writer  
Mohammad Rahman, Online Editor  
Alex Ely, Editorial Writer  
Angela Cota, Assoc. News Editor  
Morgan Figa, Assoc. News Editor  
Alex Guilfin, Assoc. News Editor  
Carl Siegmund, Assoc. News Editor  
Kara Starr, Assoc. News Editor  
Megan Doyle, Assoc. Variety Editor  
Ashley Morgan, Assoc. Variety Editor  
Miles Hilder, Assoc. Sports Editor


Andrew Pike, Assoc. Sports Editor  
Erin Grady, Assoc. Opinions Editor  
Sarah Sibley, Assoc. Opinions Editor  
Nate Burgess, Graphics Editor  
Isshin Teshima, Insight Editor  
Chelsea Caumont, Copy Editor  
Betsy Dougert, Copy Editor  
Gloria Dube, Copy Editor  
Annie Emison, Copy Editor  
Leah Fry, Copy Editor  
Josh Garstka, Copy Editor  
Kasi Kangaroo, Copy Editor  
Meghan O'Malley, Copy Editor  
Lauren Summers, Copy Editor  
Summer Finck, Production Assistant  
Jessica Gold, Production Assistant  
Sarah Hays, Production Assistant  
Matt Pons, Production Assistant  
Maggie Reeh, Production Assistant  
Pam Snyder, Production Assistant

Corrections

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.


Weather

Friday




High 55°  
Low 43°

Saturday



High 63°  
Low 47°

Sunday



High 65°  
Low 58°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“I found myself having to direct the models in ways that I was not used to ... For example, at one time I had to issue a request for ‘more sideboob.’”

— Per Hoel ’08 on being the photographer for the new SEAC calendar.

See STUDENTS page 4

News in Brief

College student awarded Marshall Scholarship

College student Judd Kennedy ’08 was recently awarded the Marshall Scholarship by the British Consulate General.

The Marshall Scholarship, awarded to 40 outstanding American students looking to pursue a graduate degree in any focus at a British institution, was named after U.S. General George C. Marshall. The scholarship was created in 1953 by an act of parliament to honor Marshall’s involvement in the reconstruction of Europe after World War II. The award provides winners with full university expenses for two years.

Kennedy, who is currently majoring in Middle Eastern Studies at the College, plans to use the money to pursue a master’s degree in both international law and international management from the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies. Kennedy is the third student in the College’s history to win the award.

RAIL recognizes four outstanding student leaders

Recognizing Achievement in Leadership chose four students to receive Outstanding Student Leader of the Month Awards.

Colleen Murray ’08 won for September, Jim Donecker ’08 for October, Michelle Gannon ’08 for November and Jessica Kim ’10 for December.

Murray has been the program director of College Partnership for Kids for three years. Donecker has been a co-leader of the Student Organization for Medical Outreach and Sustainability for three years. Gannon has been the editor of the Colonial Echo for three years. Kim coordinated the new Campus Kitchens program.

RAIL accepts monthly nominations for students who show dedication to student leadership and campus life.

— by Isshin Teshima

By the Numbers

6 million

Members of the Baha’i faith worldwide, including Rainn Wilson, who plays Dwight Schrute on NBC’s “The Office.”

\$30,000

The cost of rapper Paul Wall’s grills, which are a form of jewelry worn on one’s teeth.

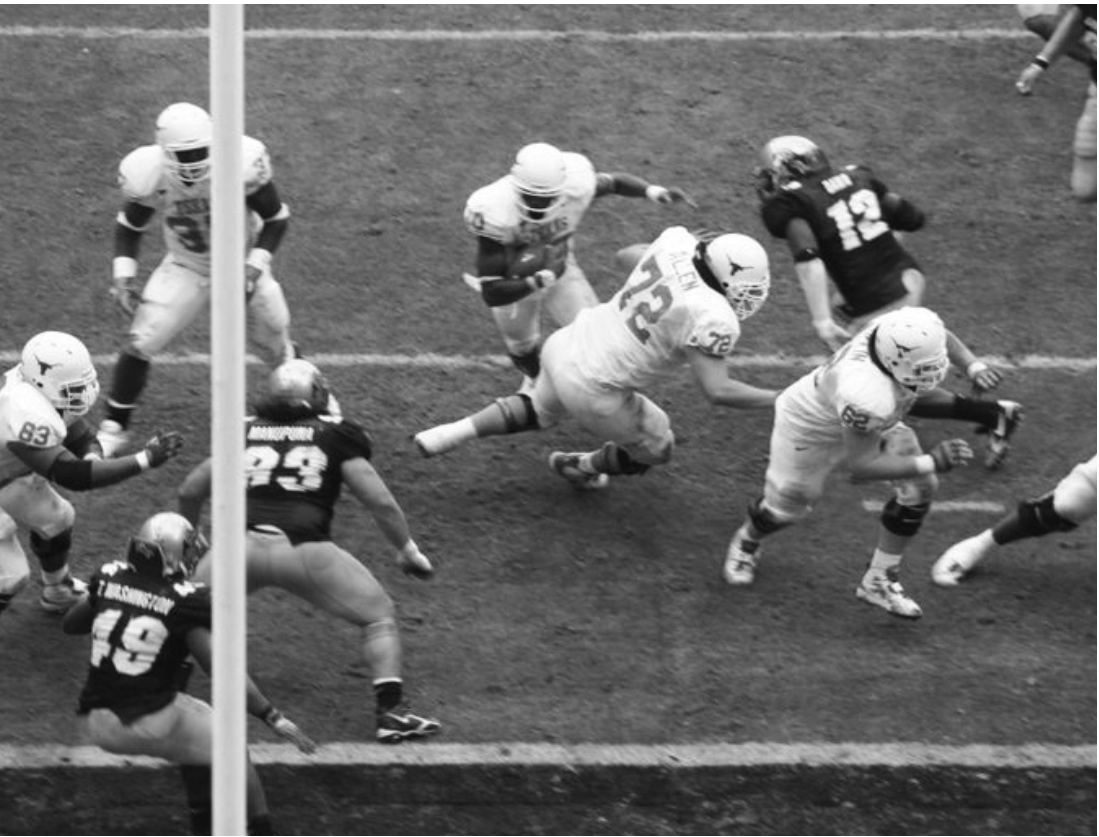
1936

The year actress Mae West first delivered her famous quip, “Is that a banana in your pocket or are you just happy to see me?”

250 million

The number of pounds of tart cherries the state of Michigan produces annually, or about 75 percent of the U.S. crop.

— by Carl Siegmund



COURTESY PHOTO — JOHNTEX, WIKIPEDIA COMMONS  
Investigation revealed that CU football players (in black) were being recruited using sex and alcohol.

BEYOND THE BURG

Univ. of Colo. pays \$2.85 million in settlement

Sexual assault case that led to the overhaul of the athletics dept. settled

By ISSHIN TESHIMA  
Flat Hat Insight Editor

This Wednesday, the University of Colorado issued a joint statement with the victims of a 2001 sexual assault crime stating that it would pay a total of \$2.85 million to the victims involved.

Ken McConnellogue, the spokesman for the university, announced that the institution would also hire federal law specialists to advise the university about treating women equally. An additional position is also going to be added in the university’s Office of Victim Assistance.

In 2001, two women claimed that they had been raped at an off-campus party for football players and recruits. The lawsuit that followed claimed that the university had violated Title IX of U.S. law that man-

dates sexual equality in education. The lawsuit claimed that the university had known of the risk of sexual harassment in connection with the football recruiting program, but had taken no action.

A federal judge dismissed the case in 2005, citing lack of proof that the university had deliberately caused an unfair environment; however, Sept. 10, 2007, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reviewed and ruled that evidence was indeed present to suggest that the university was unable to supervise their players.

The two women, Lisa Simpson and Anne Gilmore, will be awarded \$2.5 million and \$350,000, respectively, by the university’s insurer.

“This settlement closes the chapter on a painful period in the university’s history,” Colorado President Hank Brown

stated. “The University of Colorado is a different place than it was six years ago.”

The scandal prompted investigations into the athletic department at the university; these investigations revealed that drugs, alcohol and sex were indeed being used to bribe promising football recruits, and show them a “good time.”

Further investigations led to the examination of the entire athletic department and led to the resignations of the CU university system President Betsy Hoffman and Athletic Director Dick Tharp. Football Coach Gary Barnett left after the 2005 season.

“[Simpson] wanted change in the university,” Janine D’Anniballe, director of Boulder, Colo.’s rape crisis center said. “I think that’s what she got. Even more important than money is change.”

STREET BEAT

What’s the craziest thing you plan to do over winter break?



I’m going back to Hong Kong, and my high school’s graduating class has booked out a club for New Year’s Eve. Open bar!

James Muirhead ’11



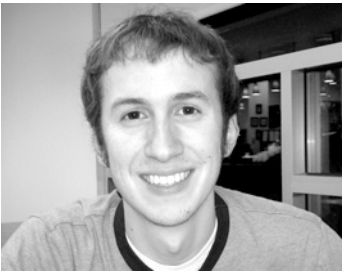
I believe there is a road trip to Canada in the works.

Ed Innace ’11



Go to sleep at 10 o’clock.

Keith Constance ’11



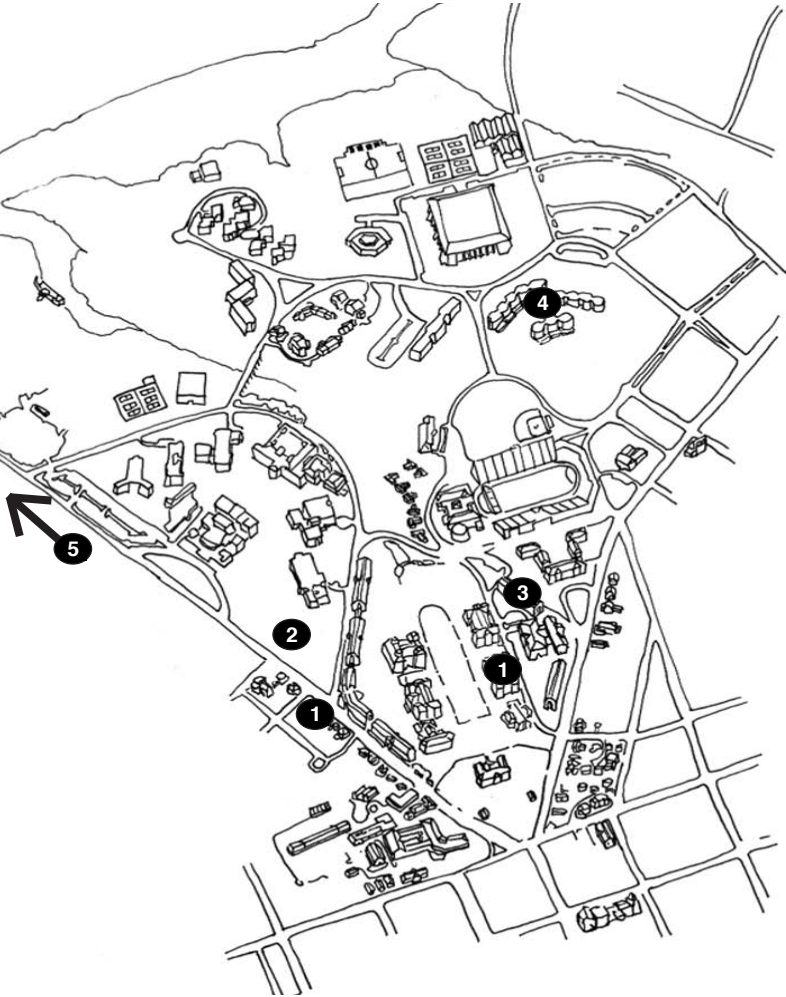
My band, String Theory, is recording our first CD in Newport News. CDs will be available fall 2008.

Daniel Paris ’09

— photos and interviews by Maral Noori-Moghaddam

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

Nov. 28 to Dec. 2



**Wednesday, Nov. 28** — Individuals from the Hornsby House and Tyler Hall reported receiving calls from a group claiming to represent the Williamsburg Police Department. The callers were soliciting donations for the Newport News Police Pipes and Drums band. After a campus-wide e-mail was sent out concerning the calls, there were nine other incidents reported to Campus Police.

**Thursday, Nov. 29** — A student from Jamestown South reported receiving weekly phone calls in which the caller asked her if she was with the administration.

**Saturday, Dec. 1** — A student from Old Dominion Hall called to report that her iPod was stolen, and an officer was dispatched. She later called back to say that she had found the iPod.

— As a result of a fight at Unit D, a student was arrested for assault and battery, and a non-student was arrested for disorderly conduct and being drunk in public. The case is currently under investigation.

**Sunday, Dec. 2** — A student from Unit E reported hearing a loud crash in the stairwell and finding broken light bulbs. An officer was dispatched and damages were estimated at around \$100.

— A student from the Ludwell Apartments called to report that her wallet had been stolen. Its estimated value was \$50.

— A student called to report that her cell phone was stolen from her coat pocket Friday night while she was at one of the fraternities. The phone’s estimated value was \$100.

— A student from Unit D reported their bike stolen. The estimated value of the bike is \$1,500.

— compiled by Sarah Hays



Under the

M C R S C O P

IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION: FISHING MAY KILL OFF VAQUITA PORPOISE

Mike Harper

FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST



According to a Nov. 16 Nature News article, the most critically endangered species of porpoise may go extinct in two years.

The vaquita, the smallest species of porpoise, is found only in the northern part of the Gulf of California. Scientists estimated in 1999 that the total population numbered 600. The results of a recent Conservation Biology survey estimate that only 150 have survived.

The greatest threat to the species is fishing. Fishermen kill approximately 40 vaquita per year as bycatch in nets. Scientists believe that once the vaquita population falls below 100, the species will no longer be able to sustain itself because of the lack of genetic diversity. Genetic diversity is the degree of variation of genetic traits among individuals of a population. Without genetic diversity, the population as a whole is less able to cope with environmental change and disease. In a population with low genetic diversity a single disease could wipe out the majority of the species. Genetically diverse populations have greater chances of survival.

The World Wildlife Fund, Nature Conservancy and Conservation International have made a joint \$10 million pledge to buy fishermen’s boats and pay them not to fish.

Although this solves some immediate problems, long-term solutions are also necessary. The fishing industry in the region cannot be stopped entirely, but fishing regulation enforcement can be improved. Areas where nets are legal need to be more stringently regulated. In addition, money should be invested in developing safer nets. Nets can be designed with acoustic deterrents. These deterrents should be tested for safety and effect. If these deterrents are successful, they should be made compulsory for all legal nets in the region.

The vaquita is the second species of porpoise to be pushed toward extinction in the past decade. The same human activities harmful to the vaquita, like fishing and pollution, were also detrimental to the Yangtze River dolphin, the baiji. The baiji was

declared functionally extinct in December of last year after an expedition intending to transfer the surviving members of the species to a cleaner waterway failed to find a single suitable one.

The fight to save the vaquita is a part of a larger struggle to maintain biodiversity. Biodiversity, the variation of species on Earth, is important to the health of the Earth just as genetic diversity is important to the health of populations. The more diverse the species of Earth are, the more the Earth is able to adjust to shifting climates and conditions.

The major problem with preserving biodiversity is that the benefits to the environment in general are barely affected by the loss of a single species; the overall health of the world did not change much with the loss of the baiji. Unfortunately, the most important people to convince, the fishermen, have the most to lose financially. It is hard to convince fishermen to quit their jobs to save an obscure porpoise. It is therefore the responsibility of the governments of the world to provide subsidies and incentive-based fishing management, which will maintain biodiversity.

The costs of these preservation programs for single species may seem high, but each species lost is a loss for biodiversity. A common analogy made is that every species on Earth is like a rivet in the hull of a ship. Every species lost is another rivet wrenched out. A few rivets can be lost to no effect — in fact, many can be. But eventually one too many will be plucked out, and the ship will sink.



COURTESY PHOTO — CETACEAN SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
*About 40 vaquita porpoises are killed each year as bycatch. The population is approximately 150.*

# SA finishes semester with five bills

By RUSS ZERBO  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The Student Assembly senate passed five bills covering a wide array of topics during its last session of the fall semester.

The Saving Students Money and Paper Act, sponsored by Sens. Joe Luppino-Esposito ’08 and Caroline Mullis ’09, passed unanimously. The bill proposes the posting of information in Swem Library on how to print on both sides of a sheet of paper and minimizes the printing of cover sheets.

“It’s pretty much a common sense thing,” Mullis said.

The Ping Pong Provision for Purposeful Playing Act, sponsored by Sen. Walter McClean ’09, also passed unanimously. The bill allocates a combined \$600 for the purchase of a ping pong ball dispenser that will be placed in the University Center basement. \$300 will be spent on the dispenser, \$150 on ping pong balls, and \$150 will be spent on balls that will have the College’s logo printed on them.

Balls will cost 25 cents each and McClean said that the Student

Assembly will soon be profiting off of the machine. McClean also said that the SA’s capability to print on the ping pong balls could result in the selling of advertisements on the balls which would generate further revenue.

“It will probably be up and running by the end of the semester,” he added.

The SLS Partnership Act, sponsored by Senate Chairman Matt Beato ’09, was also passed unanimously. The bill allocates \$30,000 from the consolidated reserve to pay Student Legal Services to give law advice to students. Most of the advice will be given by third-year law students under the supervision of an attorney. Before the bill the SLS was only permitted to present the law to students; now, advice can be given and third-year law students may represent students in court.

Beato said that the \$30,000 should last for an estimated two years, with periodic re-evaluations of the program by the SA.

Beato added, “This is one of the most researched programs we’ve put through the SA.”

The Protect the Freedom of

Speech Act, sponsored by Sens. Michael Douglass ’11 and Ben Brown ’11, passed 14-1-4. The bill seeks to prevent the theft of newspapers from the UC entrance. When the bill was previously introduced in the senate, it was sent back to committee to gather information on the proposed security camera to be placed in the UC’s entrance. The newly revised bill proposed replacing the security camera with a sign to deter students from stealing newspapers. McClean addressed the likelihood of the sign being vandalized or stolen. “I don’t think it will work, and when it doesn’t work we’ll introduce something a little harder,” Douglass said.

The Flu Shot Encouragement Act, sponsored by Sen. Ryan Eickel ’10, passed unanimously. The bill allocates \$55 toward the production and distribution of informational flyers stating where, when and for how much flu shots can be obtained.

Secretary of Finance Andrew Blasi ’10 also gave the monthly update of the SA’s finances. “We’re below our spending rate,” Blasi said.

# SA bill apologizes for slavery

By ANDY GARDEN  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The College is well-known for its colonial past, but a less-celebrated part of that history is its role in slavery. A recently passed Student Assembly bill, sponsored by Tiseme Zegeye ’08, seeks a Board of Visitors-established commission to investigate the College’s past.

The bill, entitled The Research Into and an Apology for William and Mary’s Role in Slavery Act, is part of a growing movement by states and universities to examine and, in some cases, apologize for their slaveholding pasts. In April, the Virginia State Senate and General Assembly voted to express “profound regret” for their slaveholding past, and the University of Virginia recently apologized as well.

“Some people think what I am doing is very radical and has come out of nowhere, but that is

not true. Attempts to confront our racial past are happening all over the country,” Zegeye said in an e-mail.

The bill seeks to redress the College’s slaveholding past. According to a forthcoming publication by English professor Terry Meyers in the Bill of Rights Journal, the College owned a tobacco plantation whose slaves helped fund College scholarships.

In addition, many of the College’s most famous buildings, including Wren, the Brafferton and the President’s House, were likely built using slave labor, according to Colonial Williamsburg Historian Carl Lounsbury.

It was also reported that colonial students and professors were allowed to bring their personal slaves to school with them, and presidents of the College were known to own slaves.

Zegeye’s bill calls for the BOV to “establish a commission

to research the full extent of the College of William and Mary’s role in slavery,” report its findings publicly and establish a memorial to the “contributions of slaves at the College.”

According to Zegeye, all senators were in favor of recommending that the BOV establish a commission, although some did not favor issuing a formal apology.

“It wasn’t something that the student senate needed to get involved in when we have so many other pressing issues,” Senator Joe Luppino-Esposito ’08 told the Daily Press. Luppino-Esposito voted in favor of establishing a commission.

Zegeye told The Flat Hat that she hopes to present a report to the Board in February detailing the request.

“I am asking the BOV to apologize because they represent WM as an institution, the same institution that was responsible for our role in slavery,” she said.

# College ranks ninth on prof ratings website

By ELIZA MURPHY  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

RateMyProfessors.com, a staple in the course selection process of most college students, recently published its first collection of Top 50 lists. The College ranked number nine overall for top faculty.

This is the first time that RateMyProfessors.com has used the student input from the website to recognize the schools and professors with the highest ratings.

The schools with the top faculty on the website were judged based on the highest combined average ratings among their faculty. Professors are rated in four different categories on a scale of one to five: easiness, helpfulness, clarity and rater interest.

Brigham Young University in

Utah is ranked the number one university with the top faculty on the website. The College ranked above number 15 University of Virginia and number 11 James Madison University. The only Ivy League university to make it on the top 50 list was Cornell University, ranked number 50.

The large discrepancy between the ratings of the U.S. News and World Report and those of the website is the result of their website ranking schools solely on the opinion of the students who visit the website while the U.S. News rankings are based on statistical data, including average freshman retention rate, student-faculty ratio and selectivity.

Princeton University is the number one national university in America in the 2008 U.S. News

ratings. BYU is ranked number 79 by U.S. News. The College is ranked number 33.

“The group of students who tend to post comments on online sites may not be a representative sample of students who take the courses,” mathematics Professor Dana Johnson said. “Also, it is possible that a student is unhappy with a grade and uses a negative comment to spite the professor; there are usually two sides to the matter and the professor has no way of responding.”

Johnson has visited the website in the past to check her ratings, but says that they do not affect the way she conducts her class. She believes that the course evaluations that students fill out when each course is taken are more accurate.

Want to make a difference in your community?

Positions:

RA    GRA

PA    HD

HR    CD

Your Life, Your Community

Join the Res Life Staff

Res Life is seeking candidates for the 2008-2009 student staff

[www.wm.edu/reslife/staffselection/staffselection.php](http://www.wm.edu/reslife/staffselection/staffselection.php)

Applications will be accepted January 15 & 16

In the Campus Center 2nd floor Hallway

8 am to 5 pm

Are you a rising Senior and interested in living in the Colonial Williamsburg House during the 2008-2009 academic year?

To learn more, go to:

<http://www.wm.edu/reslife/residenceHalls/cwhouse.php>

Application deadline is February 8, 2008

BODY & SOL

TANNING BOUTIQUE

4920-8 B/C Monticello Ave; Williamsburg 757-220-1224

W&M Express Cards are accepted here.

4 Great Locations

STUDENT DISCOUNTS~ valid student ID required

Coupons and Additional Location Information Available at [www.BodySolTanning.com](http://www.BodySolTanning.com)

[www.MySpace.com/BodysolTanning](http://www.MySpace.com/BodysolTanning)

4 levels of Tanning and New 100%-UV Free Mystic Tan and The Velocity Ultra Tanning Bed





CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT  
*Dozens of students showed up late last night on College President Gene Nichol's doorstep as a sign of support and solidarity for the president.*

# Students undress for environment

STUDENTS from page 1

said it was going to be a nude calendar, I was all in.”

Model Luke Pickett ’11 said he was so excited about one of the calendar’s concepts, a take on ’90s environmental cartoon superhero Captain Planet, that he volunteered to cut his long hair in favor of the character’s green mullet for the calendar.

“I rushed [headlong] into being photographed as many times as I could,” Pickett said.

Many models expressed some discomfort about appearing nearly nude, but many said that the jovial atmosphere and mutual discomfort helped assuage any fears.

“Given that there was only a small lighted studio above the Phi Beta Kappa theater available to do photography, going into such a secluded and seedy space felt, honestly, as if I were heading into a sex dungeon or to the set of some low-budget porn film,” Pickett said.

McKenzie admitted to feeling slightly uncomfortable as well.

“I was really uncomfortable at the beginning of the ... shoot, but the whole experience has made me really think about how silly that is,” McKenzie said. “I really don’t have any body issues, so why should I be embarrassed? Everyone is both different and beautiful.

It really shouldn’t be a shameful thing.”

Per Hoel ’08 took many of the pictures in the calendar. Hoel, like the models, said the experience was new and interesting to him.

“This was a first for me. I think it actually comforted some of the models when I told them this,” he said. “I suspect some of them wondered whether I did this sort of thing frequently.”

The photographer was not immune to the awkwardness of the situation. Hoel, however, said he quickly became accustomed to the situation, that he became “used to, almost jaded by, nudity.”

“The theme of the calendar being what it was, I found myself having to direct the models in ways that I was not used to,” he said. “For example, at one time I had to issue a request for ‘more sideboob.’”

Everyone involved stressed that the calendar was for a good cause.

“I think it’s a humorous and lighthearted concept to cover ourselves with environmental gear,” Pickett said. “And I felt more secure knowing that the campus will at least have not seen my ding-dong.”

The calendar will be available for \$10 during a SEAC marathon of “Captain Planet” episodes tonight at 7 p.m. in Washington 201.

# Many SA bills pass, are not enforced

BILLS from page 1

physical copy of the bill to Virginia Tech’s Student Assembly, but this was not our original intent,” he said.

The Virginia Tech Condolence Act was one of 12 bills passed during the senate’s spring session. Six of these bills took no action. Two bills involved spending. Four bills were passed concerning internal affairs.

The We Are All Hokies Act appropriated money for the purchase of memorial wristbands and donated the proceeds to a memorial fund.

So far in this session, 21 bills have been passed. Three of these required no action. Three more were approvals of SA spending.

There have been five bills this session in which an action was called for and the action has been completed.

It should be noted that most of these bills concerned internal affairs and did not need administrative approval.

One bill ensured run-off elections in the event of a tie in an SA election, one allowed graduate students to represent undergraduates in Honor Council proceedings, one restructured two senate committees, one allowed students

easier access to law advice and one bill established a \$15,000 fund to help register voters.

This leaves 10 passed bills that call for an action which has yet to be fulfilled. Two of these bills were passed last week.

The remaining eight bills require the cooperation of an outside party, with the exception of the Know Your Rights Act, which proposed the distribution of Know Your Rights cards.

Of the remaining seven bills, five are sponsored by Senator Matt Skibiak ’08. The implementation of the Handicap Accessibility Act has been pushed to the spring.

Meetings have begun regarding the Reasonable Exam Time and Pass/Fail Acts, but Skibiak was told by the chairman of the Education Policy Committee that the Pass/Fail Act will likely go nowhere.

“There will be more to come from this,” Skibiak said about the bill. “But since there seems to be less social activities on campus, there hasn’t been much complaining and therefore, not much for me to work with.”

Skibiak also sponsored the Syllabus Availability Act, which proposes the establishment of a website where students can

search for class syllabi. A designer has been commissioned to create the site, but it has yet to be finished.

Observers have criticized the current senate for the poor implementation of bills.

“If something is passed in the senate and it doesn’t come to fruition, that’s the responsibility of the entire student assembly,” SA President Zach Pilchen ’09 said.

Beato pointed out that it is difficult for any one senator to accomplish anything.

“My goal is to alleviate this problem of senators not following up on passed and pending legislation, but I am still limited in that at the end of the day I cannot force anyone to do anything,” he said. “The check and balance on SA senators is ultimately the student body in elections.”

Since the senate/executive student government structure has been implemented, save for one exception, incumbent senators hold their seat 100 percent of the time.

# Logo finally revealed

LOGO from page 1

“Our committee said it needs to be instantly recognizable as William and Mary, whatever the symbol is,” Sadler said. “And it should reflect the traditions and history of the institution.”

BOV member John Charles Thomas expressed his disapproval of the logo’s colors, stating during the meeting that the secondary color looked more like brown than it did gold. Sadler and others

attributed this to the poor quality of the printer that produced handouts of the logo for BOV members.

For the most part, however, the reaction from those in attendance seemed to be positive.

“We may be featherless, but we’re still flying,” Powell said.

As of press time, 558 people had already joined the Facebook group “Students Against the New W&M Logo.”

# Health Center sees rise in mono cases

By RACHEL OHM  
*The Flat Hat*

It is no secret that college campuses are notorious breeding grounds for mononucleosis, the infectious disease often spread through saliva that generates symptoms including fever, fatigue and sore throat.

However, students should be especially wary of contracting “the kissing disease” this winter because it appears to be on the rise at the College.

The Student Health Center, which in the past has treated approximately 58 cases of mono a year, has already diagnosed 48 students this semester, according to Sarah Irwin, a health educator at the College.

This increase, however, has not been enough to place the disease within the top 10 diagnoses at the health center, which is visited by about 130 students

each day. The leading diagnosis is upper respiratory infection, followed by depression.

Nor do sexually transmitted diseases rank among the most common diagnoses at the health center. They treat approximately 40 cases of STDs per year and have seen 18 so far. The most common are chlamydia, herpes and Human Papillomavirus.

“The best general health advice I can give is to sleep and wash your hands,” Gail Moses, M.D., director of the Student Health Center, said. “In the case of STDs, a lot of people have them and don’t think they do. I would encourage routine screening if you are engaged in high risk activity – any unprotected sex.”

## STUDENT HEALTH CENTER STATISTICS

- Number of STD cases per year: 40
- STD cases this semester: 18
- Number of mono cases per year: 58
- Mono cases this semester: 48
- Average # of students seen per day: 130

## CLASSIFIEDS

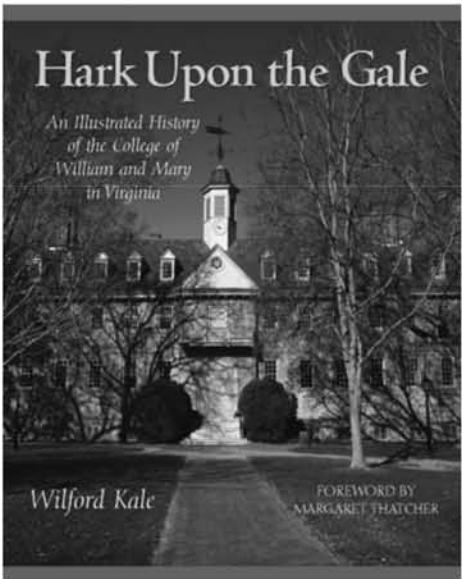
TWO PROPERTIES OFF JAMESTOWN RD. 2866 Sandy Bay: 1.47 acres; 3 BRs; greatroom; eat-in kit; family room w/fp. \$319,000 2501 Fair Chase in Foxfield near Jamestown. LG side yard; greatroom w/fp; 3 BRs; immaculate townhome; near trails & marina. \$295,000 John Ryland & Assocs., REALTORS, in Williamsburg. “Trained to Serve.” 757.875.2423

RESIDENCELIFEHIRING STAFF FOR 08-09. Information and applications available Dec.3 - Jan 16 at [www.wm.edu/reslife/staff-selection/staffselection.php](http://www.wm.edu/reslife/staff-selection/staffselection.php) Application paperwork accepted at Campus Center on Jan. 15 & 16, 2008. 11 AM to 5 PM Don't miss your opportunity to have an impact on “Your Life - Your Community”

Condo for rent, New Year at Orlando, FL, Dec 30 to Jan 6, sleeps 8, full kitchen, 3 Baths \$950 or best offer. Email: [phantom111@cox.net](mailto:phantom111@cox.net) or phone 804-693-5186 for more info or offer.

**\*\* #1 Spring Break Trips!** 4 & 7 night trips. Low prices guaranteed. Group discounts for 8+. Book 20 people, get 3 free trips! Campus reps needed. [www.StudentCity.com](http://www.StudentCity.com) or 800-293-1445.

Spring Break 2008 Sell Trips, Earn Cash and Go Free. Call for group discounts. Best Deals guaranteed! Info/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com)



Just in Time  
for the Holidays!

“*Hark Upon the Gale:  
An Illustrated History of  
the College  
of William and Mary in  
Virginia*

By Wilford Kale, Class of 1966  
is back in print!

Foreword by Margaret Thatcher, former College Chancellor


The book that drew rave reviews in 1985 has been redesigned, updated, and expanded with nearly a 100 new illustrations  
264-pages in hardback

Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni, & College Friends  
can own a copy  
Only \$39.95

Available at Merchants Square outlets  
beginning December 12  
Barnes & Noble -College Bookstore–  
King’s Treasure – Campus Shop

Also available: Special Limited Edition! Signed, numbered,  
leather-bound limited edition of 150 in slipcase.  
\$75 plus tax.

Contact the publisher at [Kalehouse@aol.com](mailto:Kalehouse@aol.com)  
or (757) 229-2944. Only a few copies remain.



*Kimball Theatre*  
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

**This is England** Not rated  
Fri., Dec. 7-Wed., Dec. 12  
7 and 9 p.m.  
Dec. 7-11 screening room (35 seats)  
Coming Attraction

**The Jane Austen Book Club** (PG-13)  
Wed., Dec. 12-Wed., Dec. 19  
6:45 and 8:45 p.m.  
Dec. 12-15, 17-18 screening room (35 seats)  
Live Performances

**Virginia Premiere Theatre presents**  
**Gift of the Magi**  
Dec. 21-23 at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 11, 18 at 3 p.m.;  
Dec. 12, 19 at 5 p.m.  
General admission \$18, Seniors/Students \$15,  
Children 12 and under \$7

**Robert Hodge in Concert**  
Fri., Dec. 7 and Sat., Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.  
All seats \$20

**The Institute for Dance presents**  
**Christmas in Williamsburg...**  
**A Magical Night on Duke of Gloucester Street**  
Sun., Dec. 9 and Tues., Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$18, Seniors/Students \$15

**Laughing Redhead Studios presents**  
**Clean Comedy Night**  
Fri., Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$15, Seniors/Students \$12



STAFF EDITORIAL

New logo a disappointment

After more than a year of deliberating and taking suggestions from students, faculty and alumni, the College released its new logo yesterday, and everyone should be extremely pleased with the result.

Unless, of course, you don't find Microsoft Word TextArt engaging.

It is hard to imagine any way that the Logo Committee could have produced a more bland new logo. While we respect the work of the committee, the result is uninspiring.

The new logo — a 'W' and an 'M,' neither of which looks quite like the intended letter, separated by an ampersand — is sterile and should have been thrown out in the early planning stages. While the intent was that the new logo should represent "an evolution rather than a revolution," the committee produced a meaningless logo that is not an evolution, but rather a disappointing regression.

The variations of the new logo will be more than suitable for admissions office literature, notebooks from the book store or other symbols of the College. However, the reason for the creation of the new logo was never to reform these symbols, but to redefine the College's athletic identity after the NCAA found the feathers to be hostile and offensive to American Indian groups.

This was an opportunity to consolidate the history and identity of the College and unveil a new brand for the College, one that could be emblazoned on the floor of Kaplan Arena, on the 50-yard line at Zable Stadium and on the uniforms of our athletes. In this regard, they have failed.

It is understandable that such a process would take longer than many people expected. The challenges of copyright and patenting laws are complex and certainly impor-

tant. Yet it is for this very reason that such a minute change from the previous logo — simply spreading the letters, changing the yellow to gold, and adding an ampersand — is such a let down. Given a year's time, is this the best option for the College? We are concerned that the level of bureaucracy demonstrated in this case seemed to be counter-productive.

While the Logo Committee and College President Gene Nichol are ecstatic, the College's athletic programs still lack a proper symbol. Perhaps the difficulty was that the College was so adamant about keeping the Tribe moniker. Given this determination, it becomes extremely difficult to find a logo or a mascot that does not pertain to American Indians. The committee could have planned to reform our mascot, nickname and logo all at the same time — a popular suggestion among students has been something in the colonial or historical vein, since this clearly defines our College and the community in which we live.

Now, however, it will be extremely difficult for the committee to come up with a suitable mascot that is representative of our athletic teams. In fact, the group may not come up with one at all, but at this point, nothing should surprise us.

Nichol said in a statement on WM News that he was grateful that the committee had brought "welcome consistency to those symbols used to represent the College."

Consistency at the expense of creativity is hardly a rational explanation for why the logo committee dragged its feet for more than a year to produce such a mediocre result. The bright side for students is that we know exactly who to blame.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Flawed evaluations

Max Fisher  
FLAT HAT CHIEF STAFF WRITER



It was an awfully awkward moment.

No one in class had done the assigned reading — and the professor's questions were all met with silence.

"Look," he said. "I know you didn't read. Professors are supposed to pretend like they don't know students don't read sometimes, but we do."

We all had to face an uncomfortable truth that we all wished wasn't so true. This week, as professors passed out those little scantron evaluation forms, there were similar awkward moments in classrooms across campus. Everyone had to face another unfortunate truth — student evaluations directly influence whether professors are awarded tenure. And maybe they shouldn't.

Most of us only spend a few moments considering how to grade our professors on their work over the semester. After all, it's the end of the year, we're tired and the final exams and essays are stacking up faster than we can keep track. But those tiny series of bubbles, insignificant though they might seem, can play a big role in your professor's life.

Consider what it means to be awarded or denied tenure. Whereas untenured, visiting professors are limited to a few short years at the College and are paid barely enough to keep up with student loans from that Ph.D. program they just spent a half-decade struggling through, tenured professors have a guaranteed job and a guaranteed salary sufficient (if just barely) to support a family.

Tenure is not just a bigger paycheck and added job security, it is the sole deciding factor between two disparate lives — one of prosperity or one of anxiety; one of safety or one of uncertainty; one of raising a family or one of thinking twice before committing to have a child. Though tenure may not be a matter of life and death, it can be and has frequently become one of life.

Even if students were sufficiently qualified judges of professorial ability to make these kinds of determinations, there are significant statistical problems in using professor evaluations to compare one professor with another.

Any reasonable statistical study must test the same population to objectively determine the differences in how that population responds to two different things. But professor evaluations don't test one

population, and so their conclusions are unreliable.

Professor evaluations grade Professor X with Professor X's students and Professor Y with Professor Y's students and then compare the results to decide whether X or Y gets tenure. This assumes that both groups of students will grade their professors with exactly the same standard, but of course this isn't necessarily true.

Maybe the students in X's class are tougher judges of character than those in Y's class. Or maybe they're grumpier because X's class meets earlier in the morning or in a darker, colder classroom and that subconsciously lowers their appreciation of the class.

Maybe Professor X teaches history of the Holocaust or modernist literature or criminal psychology and so has more cynical students who might be tougher graders. Or maybe Professor X teaches introductory-level classes that weed out a lot of freshmen ill-suited to that academic department, whereas Professor Y teachers upper-level classes full of departmental majors who all know Professor Y from other classes.

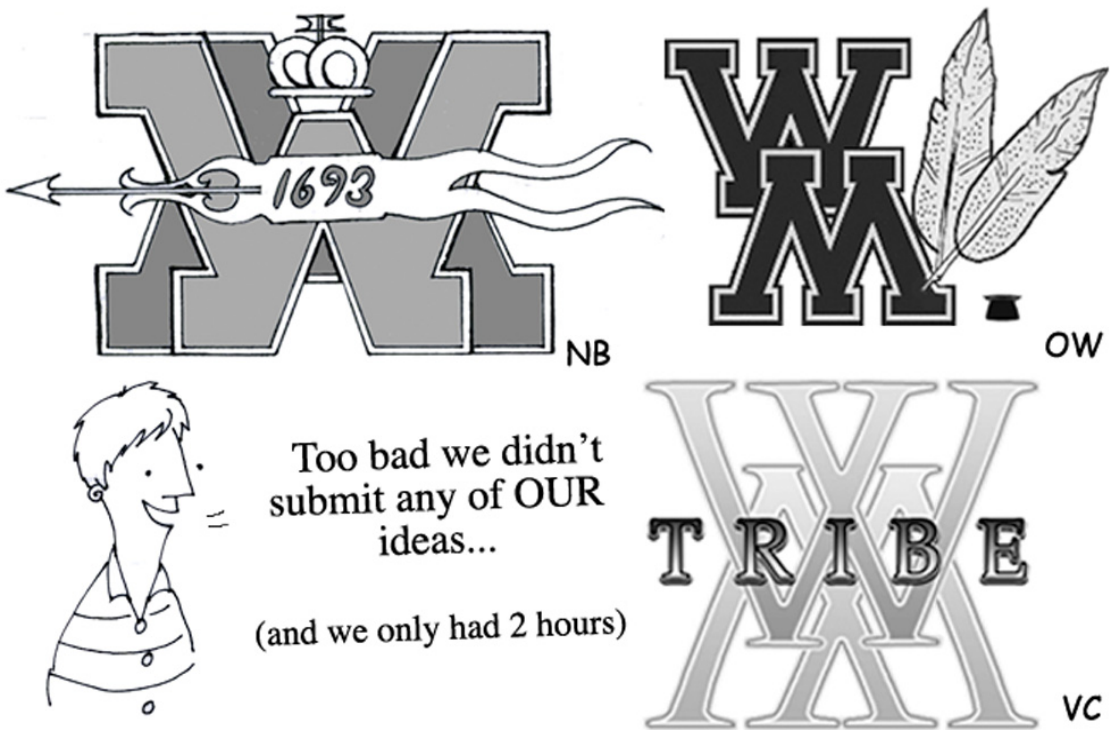
There are hundreds of reasons that Professor X's student evaluations might be lower than Professor Y's, none of which have a damn thing to do with X's ability and worth as an educator. In fact, X might be a better professor than Y, but for all or some or just one of the reasons listed above, X might be denied tenure over Y.

Professors, we often forget, are real multi-dimensional human beings rather than some kind of omniscient wisdom machines. Human beings who have chosen to pursue a career path that does not pay particularly well, compared to other fields an intelligent multiple-degree-holder might enter. Human beings who have heating bills to pay, parents to visit and children to feed, clothe and educate.

Denying a fellow human being the money to do these things because I was tired when I filled out the evaluation forms and gave him or her threes instead of fours is a moral crisis we all faced this week. But, even if each of us dedicated hours to professor evaluations and made every effort to grade objectively, it wouldn't matter.

The evaluations are statistically flawed and so will never accurately compare one professor with another. Yet, professors are awarded or denied tenure as a result of these evaluations. This isn't just unfair to professors — it's unfair to students. If our educators are selected by an inadequate measurement, then I fear our education may itself become inadequate.

Max Fisher is a senior at the College.



BY NATE BURGESS, VICKY CHAO & OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONISTS

Renew Nichol

Samantha Fien-Helfman  
and Sarah Rojas  
FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNISTS



Over the past few months, our college has lost sight of what we believe in. As a community, we have always strived to embrace the ideals of the Tribe, namely furthering the pursuit of being both a great and public university.

In his inauguration speech, College President Gene Nichol stated, "I was given a remarkable foundation upon which to build ... [made] possible by excellent, accessible, empowering public higher education ... [a] treasure we celebrate today and that we work to assure in the years ahead." Since his arrival at the College, Nichol has worked to strengthen and build upon that foundation.

Over the past few weeks, we have spoken with the administration, alumni, faculty and students across campus in order to empirically gauge Nichol's success. Nichol's vision, as stated in his inauguration speech, consisted of lofty goals.

First, he wanted to open the doors of the College to any qualified individual, regardless of income or class, by "mak[ing] clear [the College's] recognition that talent, commitment, imagination and dedication are not the exclusive province of those with significant means."

Nichol is credited with the Diversity Statement and website, both of which put into writing for the first time the sense of community upon which the College had always prided itself. It is a place "where people of all backgrounds feel at home, where diversity is actively embraced and where each individual takes responsibility for upholding the dignity of all members of the community."

He is responsible for initiatives to diversify our faculty and administration, as well as our student body. Nichol has improved financial aid packages, including enacting and furthering former College Presiden Sullivan's concept of a Gateway Program. This new financial aid initiative grants access to the College to students who would otherwise be excluded for economic reasons.

Another of Nichol's goals was "to expand our horizons — bringing the wonders of the globe to the College and the talents and capabilities of the College to the broader global community." Nichol has proven his commitment to both study abroad and international service opportunities. He facilitated a discussion with international

**We ask the community to consider the tangible accomplishments that Nichol has realized through his devotion to this College.**

service trip leaders to better learn how he could support their passion for service. Nichol's commitment to global civic engagement is evident in his active participation in the WM Medical Mission Corps, now known as SOMOS.

Last winter, Nichol traveled with the team to the Dominican Republic to set up a clinic and participate in ethnographic research. This gesture remains unparalleled by any other president in the College's history. Nichol has even personally donated to the International Service Trip Council. His unprecedented support has led to the creation of 12 more trips and a promotional trip video for use in fundraising efforts.

While addressing the Faculty Assembly during his interview as a candidate for president, Nichol stressed that "it is utterly required that William and Mary lift its sights, lift its attainments, lift its levels of participation and lift its private giving in ways that reflect an altered culture."

Nichol has since led successful financial campaigns for the College, involving as many as 58,303 active donors as of last December. The College endowment has increased by \$94.2 million, 19.2 percent during his presidency. Nichol is creating an environment that fosters financial support from those closest to the College.

Possibly Nichol's most inspiring accomplishment is the close relationship he maintains with the student body. He has proven himself incredibly supportive of new student initiatives and has even instituted an open door policy in his home. Nichol has made conscientious efforts to vocally support student endeavors, and he attends a number of extracurricular events.

We ask the community to consider the tangible accomplishments that Nichol has realized through his devotion to this College. Through his commitments to diversity initiatives, civic engagement, financial development and student relationships, it is obvious that he has already made tremendous strides in strengthening our foundation.

Further, we must recall the short time in which he has had the opportunity to lead, limited by controversies exaggerated by those who hope for his failure. If a man with this dedication and achievement can be driven out of office in the short span of three years, what is the future of the College's presidency?

Renew the president who has pursued the vision of an institution both great and public, a dream we can all share. Renew President Nichol.

Samantha Fien-Helfman and Sarah Rojas are a junior and sophomore at the College, respectively.

Letter to the Editor

**Voice your opinion on student life To the Editor:**

A common complaint about the College is the lack of social venues or student nightlife. Whether it is the difficulty of finding transportation off campus on a Friday night or a lack of social venues close to the College, many students are tired of the current Williamsburg social scene.

In 2005, the College hired a consulting firm, the Wessex Group, to conduct a "Student Expenditure Survey" to find out when, where and on what students spend money in Williamsburg. While the original goal was to demonstrate the College's economic impact on the area, several questions also pertained to improving student life. The survey demonstrated that, among other things, students wanted a movie theater. One year later, Cornerstone Theater in New Town opened for business.

Yet, the question remained: What other stores and venues does the student body want to see in Williamsburg?

While everyone has their opinion, no one knows the answer because no one has bothered to ask, until now.

On Nov. 28, using e-mail lists donated by tech savvy alumni and the trusty campus directory, the Student Chamber of Commerce launched its first annual "Student Life Survey." So far, we have seen enormous interest from the student body, but we want to hear from everyone.

What do you think about student life at the College? What do you like or dislike?

Now is your chance to tell the College and the city of Williamsburg exactly what you want. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, so take a break from writing papers and studying for finals to make your voice heard. If you haven't taken it, check your e-mail for an invitation from the Student Chamber of Commerce.

Want to improve your remaining time at the College? Now is your chance.

— Greg Cooper '08



# VARIETY

## Weak dollar hurts students abroad

*The falling exchange rate of the US dollar makes it increasingly difficult for College students studying abroad*

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**  
*Flat Hat News Editor*

In a place where a 10-pack of cheddar cheese costs over \$6 (£3), Oxford grad student Joanna Greer '07 has trouble staying on her self-imposed \$10 a day budget.

In England, where Greer studies, the sterling is currently worth more than twice the dollar, at a rate of \$1 to £2.026, according to Yahoo! Finance.

"It hurts," she said when asked about Britain's strong sterling, the United States's ever-weakening dollar and what she does — besides starve — to avoid debt. "There comes a certain point at which you can become repulsed by pasta, I've reached that point. And it's not like they have hot pockets here."

Greer, who is from Radford, Va., is one among hundreds of thousands of American college students who seek some or all of their degree outside the United States, and while that number continues to grow annually, students face an ever-increasing financial worry: the foreign exchange rate.

The United States has always been the world-leading exporter of study abroad students. According to a 2007 report by the Institute for International Education, over 220,000 American students studied in a foreign country in 2005-2006, with most studying in, you guessed it, England.

Yet, as the dollar continues its seven-year slide toward irrelevance (since 2001, according to the Dec. 2 edition of The New York Times, the dollar has fallen 19.8 percent), College students who study abroad are growing more and more cautious of how — and where — they spend their money.

In an interview with The Flat Hat, Cowen said he did not think students would be severely affected by the exchange rates, saying that the burden of the weakened dollar would be transferred to the study programs, not the individual students.

"I am not sure the effect [on students] will be large," Cowen said, "because the schools in question already make profits on these programs and higher costs might lower the profits of the school without much affecting what the student pays upfront."

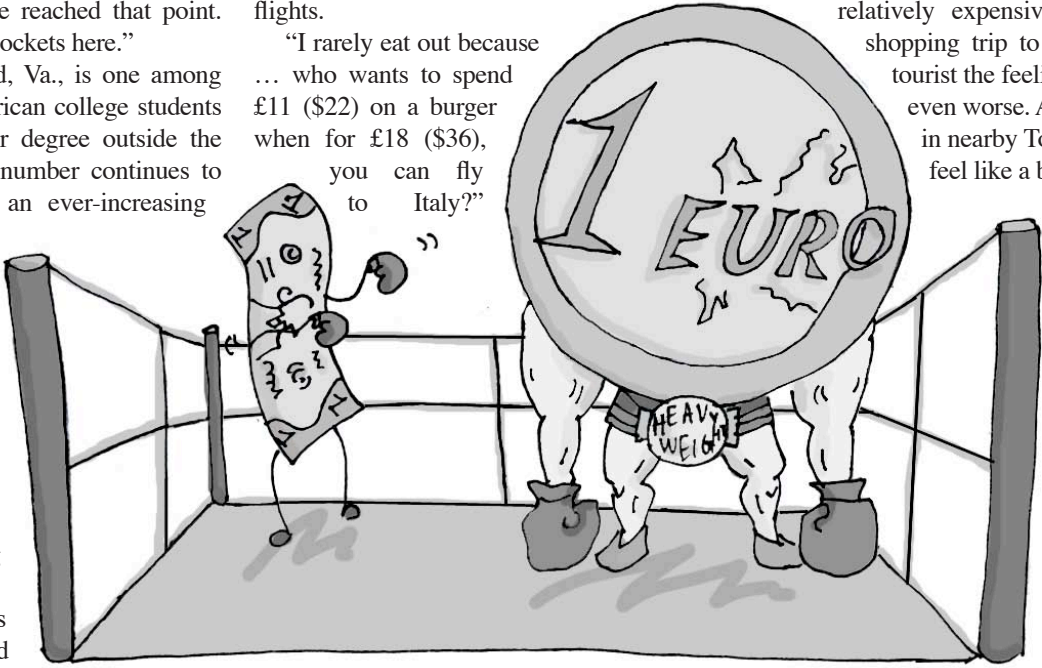
Enu Herzberg '09 currently studies at the London School of Economics and lives in central London, ranked by The Times of London as the world's second-

most expensive place to live (behind Moscow). Herzberg said that gaining an understanding of London's local economy was vital for his budget.

"The key to getting by is understanding where you live and what's relatively cheap in the area," Herzberg said. "For instance, concerns over mad cow and hoof and mouth disease drive meat prices through the roof here, while dairy and produce are pretty cheap. That translates to plenty of egg and cheese sandwiches and salad for me."

Herzberg also decides his spending by comparing prices for different goods, like the value of restaurant food versus cheap, intercontinental air flights.

"I rarely eat out because ... who wants to spend £11 (\$22) on a burger when for £18 (\$36), you can fly to Italy?"



GRAPHIC BY OLIVIA WALCH

he said. "I guess that would be my most major adjustment, I equate large expenditures in terms of traveling because flying across Europe is so cheap."

It's not only the pound that trounces the dollar's value. Since its inauguration in 1999, the Euro has steadily gained against the dollar, and is currently trading at record highs. Its current value, according to Yahoo! Finance, is \$1.4619.

Sarah Nolan '09 who is studying in Seville, Spain this fall, said that due to the weak dollar, she has avoided shopping this semester.

"Spaniards have beautiful shoes, but I don't buy them because I would have to multiply by 1.5."

Spain's prices are relatively cheap compared to England's. Nolan said that a pint of beer, a popular spending item for most College students, costs about €4 (\$6) in Seville, as opposed to £4 (\$8) in London.

Nolan, who is from Fairfax, Va., has also taken advantage of the College's tuition exchange program, where she continues to pay in-state tuition while abroad. In fact, if out-of-state students study abroad at many of the College's faculty-assisted programs, they too pay in-state tuition rates, a difference of more than \$5,000.

Though the dollar is still declining — and may continue to — against the pound and the Euro, it does not necessarily mean Americans will study abroad less. Tyler Cowen, a professor of economics at George Mason University, recently wrote in the Dec. 2 edition of The New York Times that the falling dollar may signify that Americans will spend money where prices are cheaper, such as Asia or South America.

"Many observers have an exaggerated sensitivity to the dollar's fall because they spend more time in relatively expensive countries," Cowen wrote. A shopping trip to London will give an American tourist the feeling that all prices have doubled or even worse. A weekend vacation or conference in nearby Toronto or Montreal may no longer feel like a bargain."

Nevertheless, Cowen notes, good prices exist in the world, just not in Western Europe.

"There are still many bargains, travel and otherwise, in Asia and Latin America for people paying in dollars," he said.

More College students may seek other continents such as Asia, Africa or South America for their abroad experience, gaining new insights into non-western cultures — and saving thousands of dollars while doing it.

Amir Louka '09, who is currently studying at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, said that his costs are minimal in comparison to Americans in Europe.

"A large percentage of the population [in the Middle and Far East] manages to survive on less than a dollar per day, so a little definitely goes a long way [in Egypt]," Louka said. "Unfortunately, because everything is so cheap the temptation to spend money has been hard to resist. Far too many times per day I find myself saying 'Wow that only costs a dollar, I'll take two.'"

Louka also said that — regardless of price — the study abroad experience is too unique to pass up.

"This is the epitome of that fabled 'once in a lifetime experience,'" he said. "And [its] worth every penny, no matter how worthless those pennies are becoming."

### Five Simple Ways to Cut Spending While Abroad

#### Cook your own food

If our College interviewees are any indication, restaurant prices in most foreign countries are not worth it. Instead, learn how to cook the local favorites of your selected city. Spend your savings on travel expenses.

#### Take advantage of student rates

"In Madrid, just flashing a student card got me a free beer," Enu Herzberg said. Student ID's are a valuable money-saving tool, and you can use them virtually anywhere: many restaurants,

cultural sites, tourist destinations, and transportation companies offer student discounts. Be careful, many places only accept international student cards. Be sure to buy an International Student Identity Card from the Reves Center, or online at isic.org

#### Find a job

Working while abroad gives students the opportunity to earn spending money and experience the work culture of their respective study abroad destination. While it may be difficult to get through

the in-country bureaucracy (working papers, visas) many college students have found lucrative "under-the-table" jobs as dishwashers or babysitters.

#### Stay in youth hostels

Booking a hostel in most international cities is easy and affordable. Online booking sites include hostelworld.com and hostelbookers.com. Word of warning: read the customer reviews before booking your place. Many youth hostels are infamous for their overcrowded rooms — and their odor.

Some can pass as hotels; others resemble homeless shelters.

#### Stay in touch with Skype

Download a free, online talking device at skype.com, and tell your friends and family to do the same. Using computers' speakers and microphone, Skype allows users to talk through the internet. Best of all, Skype-to-Skype calling is free, and the website also offers affordable international rates if you wish to call someone on their land line or cell phone.

### CONFUSION CORNER

## Class on '68 provokes thought

Dan Piepenbring  
FLAT HAT COLUMNIST



2007 has been a rough year for our generation. Our elders passed down the verdict, seemingly en masse, that we're a preternaturally apathetic bunch of hooligans, incapable of mustering the wherewithal to improve the world.

Our incubation period is over — the grown-ups want results, pronto. In the press, we were maligned: Rick Perlstein trashed our university lifestyles, Thomas Friedman dubbed us Generation Q (for "quiet") and David Brooks placed us in "a new life phase" called the Odyssey Years. And that was just The New York Times.

Damn.

I had the privilege this semester to enroll in a course called "1968!" — the exclamation point is vital — in which 30 or so bright and articulate students gathered weekly to discuss the zeitgeist of that particular year, just in time for its 40th anniversary. Rather than succumbing to the pitfall of empty '60s nostalgia, we embraced perspectivism, hearing firsthand from a multitude of internationals who lived through the tumult of that era.

We also argued a lot. I mean constantly. It never got violent, but I always packed alcohol swabs and a staple remover. Just in case.

The oft-discussed big, burning question was: Is there something irreparably crooked about our generation? Some felt that coming of age in the prosperity of the '90s had left us impotent, secluded by our egocentric impulses. We bickered about the shape of the future and our ability to mold it. And though we arrived at no transcendent epiphanies, I think we're all more aware than ever of how systemic the problem is and how vigilant we must be in solving it.

Take the College's own Virginia Informer, for example, which recently ran a humor column called "Walk this way." It's an innocuous enough piece, focusing on the plethoric ways in which students "are absolutely awful at upholding standard walking etiquette."

But I got to thinking: Really? This is it? Not only was the article unfunny, it was maddeningly trivial and mean-spirited — imagine a "Seinfeld" episode hopped up on coke and you get the drift. "There's nothing worse," the author wrote, than taking "a step off the sidewalk, onto the road and then back up onto the sidewalk just because some inconsiderate jerks refuse to give you an inch."

Well, it turns out there's a whole lot that's worse. I don't yearn in any way for the political climate of 1968, but I doubt that such ephemera could be found in student newspapers back then. The worldwide malaise of 2007 is no less horrifying than 1968's, but fewer of us are apt to engage it.

If a semester of discourse between 30 impassioned students couldn't get to the bottom of this, then one middling column certainly won't, either. But I'll hazard a few guesses to pass the time.

It seems to me that, more than the class of '68, we of the so-called Q generation have a basic inability to empathize with humans other than ourselves. This lamentation appears in nearly every column of mine lately, but it bears repeating. As writer David Foster Wallace said in a 2005 commencement speech at Kenyon College, "Everything in my own immediate experience supports my deep belief that I am the absolute center of the universe; the realist, most vivid and important person in existence ... It is our default setting, hard-wired into our boards at birth. Think about it: There is no experience you have had that you are not the absolute center of."

Hence the thoughts about what a bitch it is to negotiate our brick-paved walkways, teeming as they are with people who aren't us. Hence the reflex to believe that we deserve more than the average Joe, simply because we've read David Foster Wallace and know how terrifically fucked-up George Bush is.

The Informer columnist derided his peers, albeit sarcastically, for their selfishness; he didn't consider how selfish it was to feel burdened by an extra step or two. If I can't grasp that the student hogging the sidewalk is a full-fledged human being, how am I supposed to cognize the essential humanity of, say, a devoutly Islamic Iranian woman? Any failure to accept that she's tantamount to me makes it less likely that I'll accommodate her right to exist.

Wallace puts it best: "The really important kind of freedom involves attention and awareness and discipline, and being able truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them over and over in myriad petty, unsexy ways every day. That is real freedom. That is being educated and understanding how to think."

Dan Piepenbring is a Confusion Corner columnist. He sometimes has trouble negotiating our brick-paved walkways.

## Students celebrate non-Christian holiday

By **CHASE JOHNSON**  
*Flat Hat Executive Editor*

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and it doesn't take the keenest observer to know yuletide cheer reigns supreme at the College. But that certainly doesn't mean Christmas has a monopoly on holiday joy.

As many of her friends string up Christmas lights, Hillel President Alexandra Eichel '08 summons her Hanukkah spirit with doughnuts and illicit candles.

"We express our amazement for the oil by eating a lot of fried foods," Eichel said. "Really, no fried foods are off limits. ... One traditional food we always eat is the potato latka."

One of the most recognizable Hanukkah traditions is the lighting of the menorah each night, a practice encumbered by the College's pesky policy outlawing candle burning.

"Students often gather in groups to light the menorah each night," Eichel said. "My freshman year I brought 10 menorahs back to school with me and had the whole hall congregate in my room each night to light them. Everyone loved it."

Of course, those who celebrate Hanukkah also get to look forward to eight days of presents.

"We also traditionally get presents each night just as part of the celebratory atmosphere," Eichel said. "Although coinciding with Christmas has definitely overemphasized the importance of presents in this holiday, no one has complained."

This year, Hanukkah began Dec. 5. The eight-day celebration will extend into the first week of finals.

"It's hard to be in the Hanukkah spirit with all of the stress of school and finals," Eichel said.

Ramadan is another prominent holiday celebrated on campus. Yet, unlike Hanukkah — and Christmas for that matter — Ramadan doesn't lend itself to overindulgence.

"It's a month to cleanse, to purify, to strengthen your will and endurance," Muslim Student Association President Selma Alamin '08 said. "It's a chance to remember those less fortunate and focus on more than just food, nourishing your mind and spirit."

Alamin said that the difficulty of fasting makes each meal after sundown special.



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT

**Members of Hillel gather to celebrate Hanakkuh with traditional food.**

"It's difficult to fast alone," she said. "That's why MSA sponsored weekly iftaar meals [breakfasts] during Ramadan and hopefully created a network for Muslim students to eat every day with others who were also fasting."

As with Hanukkah, the exact date of Ramadan changes in relation to the 12-month calendar traditionally used in the U.S. This year, it began Sept. 13.

"[We] celebrate Eid al-adha, which is the celebration of the sacrifice, and will

be celebrated December 20," Alamin

See **HOLIDAY** page 7

### A WILLIAMSBURG HOLIDAY

*a two-part series*

**TODAY:** A look at other holiday celebrations

**LAST TUESDAY:** Beloved Christmas traditions on campus and in Williamsburg draw students and tourists





THAT GUY

# Jonathan Welle



Late at night, you can find Jonathan Welle in one of two places: slaving over work in Tucker Hall or streaking somewhere on campus. Welle, with his incredibly dynamic personality, is the only man who could mesh these activities so seamlessly. He’s a modern cowboy with his signature eyebrow ring on a never-ending journey for adventure. And yet, he has an incredibly sensitive side — a Chapstick addict who maintains a strong relationship with his grandmother.

**Tell me a little bit about your eyebrow ring.**

It’s something I had always wanted to do throughout high school, but I couldn’t because of sports. It was definitely premeditated. I came to College knowing I wanted to do it here, but I was a little nervous about getting it done. March of my freshman year, I worked up the courage.

It is definitely a point of uniqueness that I have come to appreciate. I don’t expect to have it forever. I’ll get rid of it when I have a real job ... which my mother hopes will be sooner rather than later. For the time being, I’m definitely down with it. There have been times that I’ve thought about adding something crazy like a dangling earring or avicious stud pipe, but that would risk impairing my vision or damaging my eye. One time, the eyebrow ring cast a shadow on my nose when I was reading a book. I thought it was a bug and tried to swat it several times. I was like “damn ... this is the most persistent bug I’ve ever seen.” But then I realized it was a shadow, so I stopped swatting.

**In what other ways have you defied people’s expectations of you?**

One summer I worked at a ranch called Tumbling River. I was a horse wrangler and team counselor, so every morning I would wear my cowboy costume and take care of the horses. I basically shoveled their poop, and then in the late mornings and afternoons I would get to spend time with teenagers on the ranch.

We would do fun things like rock climbing, or going on trail rides, or white water rafting. We also made up skits for the ranch’s talent show. My favorite performance was a rap we made up. We called it “Tum-bling Bling River,” and made lots of fake jewelry, which we wore. It was a fun job but incredibly intense. It is something I am really glad I did because it was quite the unique experience and something I learned a lot from but not a job I would necessarily be excited to take again. It was a once-in-a-

lifetime opportunity, as they say. **You were a horse wrangler? Did you have previous experience riding?** I really had next to no horse experience coming in, so it was a lot of on-the-job training. The good news for my employers was that most of the requirements of the horse wrangler were to scoop poop and brush and saddle the horses, which pretty much anyone can do. It was only through the course of the summer that I learned to do things like leading the trail rides and riding in the rodeo.

**So, is becoming a professional horse wrangler in the works now?**

No, I’ve been working on my dream job for a long time and, slowly, I am figuring out what it is I want to do. I want to do something hands on and tangible ... something that I feel is making a worthwhile contribution. At this point, while I am free to do so, I consider those characteristics to be more important than any other. I don’t have an answer more specific than that, but I am excited at the possibility of doing work with an onsite group such as USAid, PeaceCorps, AmeriCorps or Habitat. I’ve really looked into getting involved with all things like that.

**You seem to have acquired traits typical of a cowboy. Do you play guitar too?**

Yes, I have actually played for a long time. Maybe nine years, which I am always hesitant to say because that would imply I should be good at it. I’m not that good. In fact, I’m really not good, but I still like to do it. When I decide to make the time for it, it’s something I really love to do.

**What is another thing students might not know about you?**

I’m completely addicted to Chapstick. I don’t know why that is. I feel like I need it physically for my lips. But, and this is going to sound ridiculous, it is also a comfort, nervous habit type of thing for me. I always carry it around with me and my close friends know that. Occasionally I will be in the Leafe and someone who needs it will get my attention and just mouth “Chapstick” at me. If I like them, I might give it to them.

**What is one thing you have worked hard on during your time at the College?**

I would have to say balancing school work and friends. Ever since freshman year, it has been a focus of mine. As every college student knows, it is hard to find the right balance between the two. I think I have learned to prioritize school when needed, yet simultaneously enjoy my friends and make the most of this school. Gosh, I’m imagining how this is going to sound printed and I know people are going to think, “Oh man, what a tool bag.” But it’s true.



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

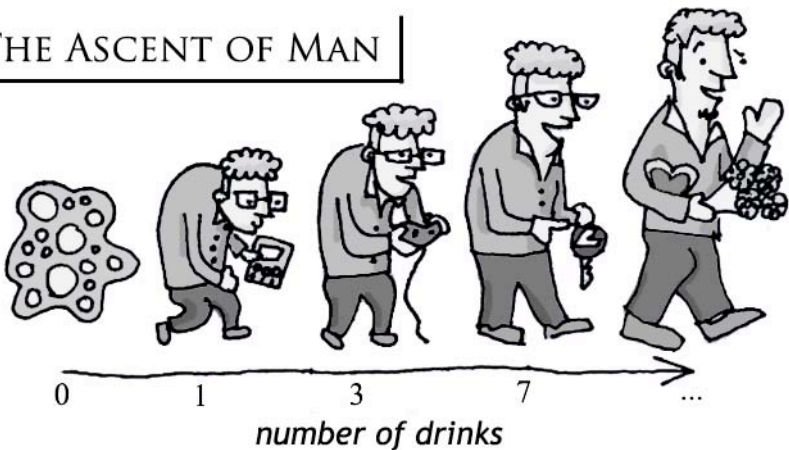
## Drink up, don’t try to get it up

Emily Powell

FLAT HAT SEX COLUMNIST



### THE ASCENT OF MAN



Ah, love is in the air. Wait, that’s not the smell of love — that’s grain alcohol. Oh yeah, it’s Blowout. The tradition of Blowout goes back to when Thomas Jefferson finished his last classes and could be seen running about sans breeches with a jug of mead.

Drinking isn’t compulsory on this “holiday,” and I know plenty of people who have an amazing time without it (mostly making fun of the drunken people). In fact, if you plan on hooking up Friday night, I’d recommend you not imbibe so heartily. You may end up with a blow up on Blowout.

As everyone should have learned from AlcoholEdu, drinking lowers your inhibitions and, in some cases, your expectations. If you were too shy to get on the dance floor before, now you’re thinking it’s a pretty great idea; you’re wondering why you didn’t realize that the guy you’re dancing with is a sex god. By the same token, any girl you considered a five before you started drinking is now an eight and climbing. But really, would you rather hook up with someone you can brag about to my friends or someone who got hit with the ugly stick?

Not that personality isn’t part of it. The person you become when you drink is always interesting and always magnified by 100. Sometimes when you’re drunk, you see yourself differently than everyone else sees you. Be aware: When you think you’re just offering a beer, you’re really spilling it all over her. Some girls turn into “the greatest dancers,” but humping everybody’s leg and falling down sounds more like what a puppy might

do than like the latest dance moves.

When you’re drunk, remembering where you are can be difficult, much less remembering to keep your clothes on. It’s not the best feeling in the world to walk around the frats the next semester and find that, like on “Cheers,” everybody knows your name. Even strangers. Even that guy who was studying abroad last Blowout. Uh-oh.

Some people pride themselves on this infamously. If you’re confident enough in your abilities and want everyone to know it, I’m not discouraging you from hooking up. Just not while you’re drunk.

By now it’s pretty inexcusable to claim not to know that a drunk person can’t give consent. If someone asked you that question you could spit out the answer instantly, but do you give it a second thought with a Solo cup in your hand? How many times have you said to yourself, “Yeah I’ve been drinking, but not that much.”

Sorry, wrong answer. If you’re beyond the legal limit to drive, consider yourself beyond the legal limit to make good decisions. Women always seem more worried about the consent possibility. That’s understandable because the threat of rape is very real

to us, but it’s a two-way street. Ladies, don’t think that just because men often chase after you for sex, you can demand it of them after they’re too drunk to think about it. Maybe they would have said “yes” sober, but you can’t know that unless you wait.

That’s assuming that he can get it up. Alcohol causes him to lose some of the focus he’d have if he were sober, and premature ejaculation is not uncommon. But it’s not only the guys that suffer in the sack after the keg’s been tapped. Even a small amount of alcohol reduces our sexual responsiveness, making it harder to reach orgasm. Considering the battle many women already have with coming during sex, making it more difficult is a terrible idea.

After all is said and done, it’s really up to you and whomever you’ve chosen to entice. It’s part of that growing up and responsibility thing: you can have as much sex as you want. Just don’t make that decision drunk. No one’s looking over your shoulder to say, “They’re too drunk to have sex; leave now.” It’s the smartest advice you can take away.

*Emily Powell is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She dances like a sex goddess even when sober.*

## Students celebrate non-Christian holidays

HOLIDAY *from page 6*

said. “It’s a celebration of sacrifice and giving zakat (alms [or] charity) and following Abraham’s example and eating a lot of lamb.”

Unlike Ramadan, Hanukkah and Christmas, the Kwanzaa holiday doesn’t have a religious backdrop.

In fact, Kwanzaa’s history is relatively new. It was created and first celebrated in 1966 by a black author and political activist named Ron Karenga.

“Kwanzaa reflects the traditional customs and values of Africa combined with those in America,” Director of Multicultural Affairs Chon Glover said. “It is an opportunity

to celebrate what we have, to give thanks and to reflect on the new year.”

Kwanzaa is celebrated from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 each year, one day for each of the seven principles for which Kwanzaa stands — unity, self-determination, collective work, cooperative economics, creativity, purpose and faith. Each night during Kwanzaa, families gather to light one candle on the kinara, which is similar to a menorah.

Although Karenga originally described Kwanzaa as a “Black alternative to the holiday,” Kwanzaa is now considered open to all.

“I think it is typically celebrated by African Americans,” Glover said. “But anyone can celebrate it.”

### SUDOKU

3		6	7		2		5	
	1			4	6		9	
8	4	7						
		8			1			5
	3	9		5		8	1	
7			3			6		
						5	8	1
	6		1	7			4	
	8		5		3	9		6

easy

				8	2			9
5			3	9	1		4	
	9	6			4		1	
	1	4					8	
9			8		7			1
	3					5	7	
	5		9			7	3	
	7		1	6	5			2
2			7	4				

hard

source: crazydad.com

### HOROSCOPES

**Sagittarius:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



You will realize this week that the stars want a BCS playoff structure. They also want Ohio State University to get steamrolled, as per usual.

**Capricorn:** Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



More than a month after Halloween, you regret not trying out your Jeanne Zeidler costume. That outfit would have screamed, “No kids allowed.”

**Aquarius:** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



This week you will solve the age-old riddle: What should get more people arrested, a fraternity party or a ShouldNicholBeRenewed.org rally?

**Pisces:** Feb. 19 - March 20



Speaking of arrests, congrats on making it all semester without a scuffle with the College’s finest. Your days are numbered.

**Aries:** March 21 - April 19



Want to earn \$12 million? Get rid of all the liberals at the College and name your new charity “The Donor Vacillation Foundation.”

**Taurus:** April 20 - May 20



Congrats on the job call back. That new small business will hire you to bitch online about Gene Nichol all day. Talk about a saturated market.

**Gemini:** May 21 - June 21



Having trouble with that paper? Try doing an expose on the convict worker release program that provides parking services to their staff.

**Cancer:** June 22 - July 22



You’ve been offered a job at Google and have gotten in to various law schools, but New Jersey is still the armpit of the country and you used to work at Fox News.

**Leo:** July 23 - Aug. 22



Contrary to popular belief, the biggest embarrassment to professional sports is not the New York Yankees, but the Washington Capitals.

**Virgo:** Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



If you wake up this week in a chloroform-induced stupor, you shouldn’t fret. It’s IT bill payment time, and your 41 cents was a week late.

**Libra:** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Looks like we might have a new logo at the College. You’ll realize that this is great news halfway through the year when it doesn’t fucking matter anymore.

**Scorpio:** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



It takes a man to know a man, and it also takes a man to know that Mike Gravel should be the next U.S. president.

— by Alexander Ely

## What happens when your sex columnist gets laid ... off?

While our columnist was not laid off, the position will be open next semester. If you’re interested, e-mail Alice Hahn at [alice.hahn@flathatnews.com](mailto:alice.hahn@flathatnews.com) to apply.



# Early leaders, winter hopefuls steer Oscar push

By GREG BENSON  
*The Flat Hat*

It's that time of year of again. Sleigh bells ringing. Carolers caroling. Laptops sailing majestically out of third-story windows as the cold, gripping panic of finals season sets in. But most of all, moviemakers across the country are biting their collective teeth as the last minute push towards Oscar season begins.

It's a bit of an odd race this year, though, because two of the Academy's big veterans, Ridley Scott ("Gladiator") and the Coen Brothers ("O Brother, Where Art Thou?") have already made their plays. The Brothers' superb "No Country For Old Men" and Scott's more than decent "American Gangster" both look poised to garner at least a few nominations, most likely for their superb leads, and possibly even for Best Picture.

Both films, at least at face value, seem to have what it takes to get their hands on that treasured best-of-the-best award: slow, measured storytelling; sparse, gritty camera shots; scenery-chewing performances across the board and, as seems to be the case lately, lots and lots of violence. Looking back, the past few winners have consistently been gory affairs, especially last year's winner, "The Departed" — Martin Scorsese's latest highly tasteful bloodbath.

What's more, violent flicks have consistently beaten out the comedies like "Little Miss Sunshine" and "Lost in Translation," which doesn't bode too well for one of my personal favorites



COURTESY PHOTO — UNIVERSAL PICTURES  
*Oscar watch: Leading the Oscar season buzz is Ridley Scott's film "American Gangster," starring Denzel Washington; "The Kite Runner," with Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada and Zekirya Ebrahimi as Hassan and Amir, looks to be the big hitter of the winter stretch run; "Juno," starring Ellen Page and Michael Cera as Juno and Bleeker, could be an indie success.*



COURTESY PHOTO — PARAMOUNT VINTAGE



COURTESY PHOTO — UNIVERSAL PICTURES

from earlier this year, "Waitress." It's a good, tenderhearted flick about plain folk featuring a spectacular cast and script. It didn't stir me in a deep Clint Eastwood sort of way, but it did put a smile on my face for a full two days after I left the theater. Because of that, it will probably be trampled unmercifully by the Academy.

One thing that it does have going for it in the Oscar race, tragically, is the senseless murder of writer, director and co-star Adrienne Shelly, killed by a complete stranger a few weeks after filming was completed. The sympathy factor from this horrific crime might be enough to give the mid-May release a

bittersweet leg up in the nominations.

As for the upcoming winter releases, the one out front seems to be "The Kite Runner." The season for Oscar hopefuls just wouldn't be the same without the requisite stark, heartbreaking drama about how thoroughly fucked up the third world is, and "The Kite Runner" looks poised to fill that void.

Based on the best-selling book — the first novel published by an Afghani author in English — and directed by Marc Foster ("Finding Neverland"), 'Kite Runner' looks like it's going to be the big talk this year.

So, with the big names in place and ready to go, all that remains is to spot the

dark horse. This is fun, because there's one every year and until it shows up in theaters, it's damn near impossible to call the new celebrated underdog. My money's on "Juno," which looks like a quasi-bleak yet warmhearted comedy about a high school girl who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant and plans to give the baby to a local young married couple. Cashing in on the "unwanted pregnancy is funny" fad — which I can only imagine will be highly short-lived — and, even better, starring indie darlings Jason Bateman and Michael Cera of "Arrested Development" fame, this flick looks like it's got all the fixin's for an underground hit. Not to mention that it's

directed by the same guy as "Thank You For Smoking." Seriously, how could this possibly go wrong?

Yet, at this time of year, with all of today's focus on tasteful, meaningful, artful pictures, it can be easy to lose sight of the sheer volume of enjoyable, entertaining and thoroughly mindless crap which will be flooding the cinemas in the coming months. Another Tim Burton/Johnny Depp gig in which he kills people — and sings. Will Smith as the last man on Earth — with zombies. A J.J. Abrams flick that could either be an H.P. Lovecraft inspired tale of existential

See OSCARS page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — ELISABETH CAREN/QUARTERLIFE  
*"Quarterlife," the new web series, stars former "Lonelygirl15" web blogger Bitsie Tulloch and Scott Michael Foster of television show "Greek" fame as Dylan and Jed.*

## Web series 'Quarterlife' offers post-college angst

By ALEX GUILLÉN  
*Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor*

Question: What do you get when you combine five artist wannabes with adjoining apartments and a colossal dose of iGeneration angst?

Answer: "Quarterlife."

This new web series focuses on five post-collegiate 20-somethings struggling to find their respective places in a business-jaded world that is hostile to new, novel ideas. And, despite the

angst that drips from every orifice, "Quarterlife" is shockingly enjoyable.

The main character, Dylan, is portrayed by the relatively unknown Bitsie Tulloch. Tulloch formerly worked on the infamous YouTube series "Lonelygirl15." She has the unique ability to be breathtakingly beautiful and amazingly unattractive simultaneously — something about her wide-set eyes and her teenie nose.

See 'QUARTERLIFE' page 9

## 'Alive 2007' gives musical glimpse into Daft Punk's famed live act

By SPENCER ATKINSON  
*Flat Hat Photography Editor*

Listening to "Alive 2007" on headphones is like observing a lion behind the bars of its cage.

In Daft Punk's first live release in six years, the group's seminal electro-dance tunes offer an illusory sense of danger. 'Alive' captures Daft Punk's sound in its full form — bass buzzing through the audience's bones and loops dodging and burning through its rich history of electronic music.

From the intermittent audience screams to effects trickery and solid computerized pulses, 'Alive' presents a convincing snapshot of electronic juggernaut Daft Punk's live display. This live album pumps the cream of the group's three studio releases through the energy of a stadium-turned-dance-hall.

'Alive' is a good point of entry for anyone interested in the group, as it represents the group's strongest music. However, the duo doesn't just press play and sit on their previous material. 'Alive' mashes up all of Daft Punk's most popular songs, including the oft-used-in-commercials "Around the World," to create a new experience for anyone familiar with the group's studio albums.

Earlier this year, lucky Parisian concertgoers felt the splendid effects of these rearranged tunes. Beats from one song swap places with that of another, and

the vocals are chopped up and reproduced to fit the new song structures.

Some parts drone longer than necessary, but a variety of coming-and-going loops consistently present new dynamics. The group exploits the usual flow of the music to suit the

live atmosphere, which, for the most part, works. When a segment exhausts its role it fades into the background, possibly appearing later as an echo or a complementary layer of texture.

See DAFT page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — VIRGIN

## Tired TV reruns make these alternative Christmas films worth another look

Matthew Falwell  
CRITICAL CONDITION COLUMNIST



I've found the most annoying part about the holidays to be the way the television networks forcefully shove "inspirational" movies down your throat just for the sake of being festive.

It wouldn't be so frustrating if the pool of choices they selected from wasn't limited to the dozen aging classics they unearth each and every December, but they refuse to expand their horizons.

In fact, there are hundreds if not thousands of Christmas movies, and the list is only getting longer. The terrible reality is that some of the best often fall through the cracks, rarely airing on television due to eternal "A Christmas Story" marathons and the ubiquitous "Charlie Brown Christmas" specials. What makes it so special if it airs every evening for an entire month, anyway?

I don't hate any of the classic holiday fare; truthfully, they're masterpieces: heartwarming,

timeless and moving. They bring people together, and that's what this whole Christmas thing is about, right?

That said, I've had more than my share of togetherness with my family this year, and the usual peace-on-Earth and goodwill-toward-men propaganda has long since grown stale to me after seeing the same reruns for 20-plus years.

It's time for some new classics, and I think the networks have a lot of untapped yuletide. I've assembled a list of three often ignored would-be holiday classics you'll be hard-pressed to see the TV stations air this holiday season. These don't pretend to be good movies — which is what makes them so great.

First up is the comedy "Jingle All the Way," Arnold Schwarzenegger's holiday smash of 1996. He's a stereotypical workaholic father sentenced by his wife to brave Minneapolis on Christmas Eve to find the only present his son wanted for Christmas: a Turboman doll, which coincidentally is the sold-out toy of the season.

Why the child's pathetic parents hadn't cared enough to fulfill his only wish before Christmas Eve is a problem you're supposed to ignore. Arnold

hunts for the only toy that can convince his child he actually loves him and matches wits against another equally worthless father in the form of a disgruntled postal worker played by Sinbad. The two desperately sabotage each other's plans as they fight off the perils of last-minute shopping, from bomb threats to vengeful mobs to a giant toy-store parade.

It's hard to pin down what makes this painful Christmas flop so compelling. Could it be Arnold's mastery of the Minnesotan dialect, the idolized hatred of the main characters for one another or the over-the-top yet true-to-life celebration of holiday materialism? It's hard to tell, but I can assure you that no movie will jingle you more than this one.

Materialism is entertaining, but it doesn't go against the grain of the holidays strongly enough to satisfy my sick and withered husk of a heart. Fortunately, "Santa's Slay" delivers where so many have failed. No, that title isn't a misprint.

This B-movie messiah tells the "true" story of Santa Claus — the child of a virgin birth involving the supernatural demon-seed of Satan (Santa's namesake) and a lady named Erica. During the film, Santa seeks homicidal vengeance against a

couple of youngsters for some reason or another (I'd be lying if I claimed the plot was deeper than that), leaving a trail of mutilated B-list celebrities along the way. Other holiday horror films like "Jack Frost" have tried to push the envelope, but "Santa's Slay" incinerates it, much like the strip club that set him off in the later half of the film. The film offers no moral lesson at the end, either. Perfect.

Finally, "Ernest Saves Christmas" goes beyond greed and violence — it throws an attempt at realism into the mix. Santa's enemies in this one include law enforcement, customs officials, social norms, senility and accusations of insanity. His abuse doesn't stop there, as the film has him tossed in jail, brutally humiliated in public and robbed by a youth whose actress barely qualifies to play her role.

This "family-friendly" Santa doesn't maim or murder (to my dismay), so of course it's up to the zany antics of lovable redneck legend Ernest P. Worrell and his menagerie of disguises to save Christmas. Truthfully, Tim Allen's "The Santa Clause" brushes with a problem of the real world

See CHRISTMAS page 9



Coming Attractions

— compiled by  
Alex Guillén

ALBUMS



**The-Dream** — “Love Me All Summer, Hate Me All Winter” (Def Jam)  
Singer-songwriter The-Dream’s debut album features Tricky Stewart as producer (Rihanna). Sensual in the style of early ’80s Prince, the album features guest stars Fabolous, Jay-Z, Rihanna and Andre 3000. **Dec. 11**



**Beanie Sigel** — “The Solution” (Roc-A-Fella)  
Philadelphia rapper Beanie Sigel’s fourth studio album marks the singer’s return after a hiatus following legal troubles. Though described as depressing, Sigel says his music reflects his personality. Some guest rappers include Jay-Z, Diddy, Ghostface Killah and, oddly, James Blunt. **Dec. 11**

MOVIES



**The Golden Compass** (New Line Cinema)  
“The Golden Compass” is an adaptation of Phillip Pullman’s 1995 fantasy novel of the same name. The plot follows an orphan girl named Lyra who lives in a fantastical parallel universe ruled by a brutal dictator. The cast includes Nicole Kidman as the villainess and the voice of Ian McEwan. **Dec. 7**




**Atonement** (Focus Features)  
Directed by 2005’s “Pride and Prejudice” alum Joe Wright, this adaptation of Ian McEwan’s 2001 novel of the same name follows Kiera Knightley and James McAvoy as two World War II-era Brits living lives of atonement for their sins. **Dec. 7**

BOOK




**“Gods Behaving Badly” by Marie Phillips** (Little, Brown and Company)  
This satirical debut novel from British blogger Marie Phillips portrays the ancient Greek gods, including Apollo, Aphrodite and Dionysus, living together in modern London. With waning powers, they work odd jobs to get by. **Dec. 10**


HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP




**The dancing nephrologist**  
Rexi starlet Mary-Kate Olsen sure knows how to recover. The little rascal found herself with a kidney infection last week, but was only hospitalized for a New York minute. She was spotted dancing at various hotspots across the city Tuesday night and well into Wednesday morning. According to a tipsy waitress, MK looked like she was having a pretty fantastic night. Talk about a quick comeback.



**Matters of Life and Dating**  
Usually dreaming with a broken heart, John Mayer finally got a chance with his crush of two years. The romantic crooner spotted talk show host Ricki Lake at a Christmas party on what turned out not to be any given Tuesday. After confessing his city love, the singer got some clarity. The two discussed Ricki’s new documentary, “The Business of Being Born,” which we’re sure is enough to make him perfectly to be alone at Christmastime.



**She’s all-natural**  
In response to reports that she had a nose job, “The Black Dahlia” star Scarlett Johansson is threatening to sue Us Weekly for libel. The magazine printed a picture with the cover line “A-List Nip/Tuck.” The good woman vehemently denies the accusations of the magazine, which quoted her as saying, “I definitely believe in plastic surgery. I don’t want to be an old hag. There’s no fun in that.”



**Dishonorable discharge**  
Some girls have all the luck: Preggers convict Nicole Richie got out of her court-mandated anti-drinking-and-driving classes. After driving drunk down the wrong side of the highway, she was charged with a DUI and spent only 82 minutes in jail. One month into the 18-month course, her instructor decided Nicole was too exhausted to continue, discharging her for medical issues.  
— by Alice Hahn

Oscar hopefuls,  
simple holiday  
fun fill season’s  
box office

OSCARS *from page 8*

horror or a movie about Voltron — we still don’t know.

And, at the heart of it, isn’t that what holiday movies are all about? Being entertained, for an hour or two, no matter how stupid the subject is.

So, after that last exam is over and you can barely form a coherent sentence because your brain feels like it’s been dry cleaned, crawl your way to the nearest cinema. Plunk down that \$10 for “Walk Hard.” You know you want to, and at the very least, I hear it’s warm in there.

Web show ‘Quarterlife’ shows angsty 20-something life

‘QUARTERLIFE’ *from page 8*

Dylan dreams of being a writer, but — surprise — starting out in the fashion magazine world is really hard. She toils away as a lowly copy editor, and, to fulfill the urgent need to write, she creates a video blog on a social networking site for artists — Quarterlife.com — coincidentally the website on which “Quarterlife” airs. Yes, this meta-story is both self-referential and post modern.

Dylan’s roommates are Debra, played by Michelle Lombardo (“Click”), and Lisa, portrayed by Maite Schwartz (“Gilmore Girls”). Lisa is an aspiring actress working as a barmaid and taking insults from her acting teacher — whom she is sleeping with (of course). Debra’s character is shockingly undeveloped, although there is the sense that Daddy provides her with everything she needs.

So far Debra’s role has been primarily acting as the instigator in a love triangle. First, there’s her boyfriend, Danny (David Walton, “Heist”), a philandering, albeit chiseled, tool. Then there’s Jed, played by Scott Michael Foster (“Greek”). Jed is Danny’s best friend and filmmaking partner, but he has his eye on Debra. Jed and Lisa are easily the most likable characters; they’re the most unpretentious and truthful of the lot.

So, here is an attempt to sum up the various relationships: Dylan and Debra are best friends. Danny and Jed are best friends. Debra dates Danny. Jed wants Debra. Dylan wants Jed. Danny is having an affair with the girl from the commercial he and Jed filmed. Lisa — well, it’s not yet clear how she fits into all this.

Dylan says some pretty mean, albeit true, things about her friends, and in one episode they find this out and

become angry. Oddly, they quickly forget about it, and Dylan goes back to revealing secrets on her blog.

Here’s an example of the angst she routinely spills out all over her laptop: “The sad truth about my generation is that we were all geniuses in elementary school, but apparently the people who deal with us never got our transcripts because they don’t seem to be aware of it.”

That just oozes with angst. Here’s another: “It’s my curse that I can see what people are thinking. What they want to say, but can’t say. Who they want to be with. But what good does that do me if no one can see me?”

Can you feel the torment, the anguish? What a tortured soul. Oh Dylan, reveal more about our complicated interconnected technolives.

Here’s the thing: This is the life I’m trying to avoid. As an English

major, I realize my post-graduation job prospects are grim (although I give thanks every day that I’m not a theater major), and so these people are leading a less-organized version of the life I want to live in a few short years.

Generation Y wants to think the way Dylan does, but they definitely shouldn’t want to video-blog themselves saying it.

So what is the point of “Quarterlife”? Turns out, the conceit Dylan gives her blog is transferred to the show itself. Just watch out for the generational pretentiousness.

The series, which was turned down as a pilot by ABC, airs in 36 eight-minute segments posted each Sunday and Thursday night on Quarterlife.com. After all the mini-episodes air, NBC will shove them together into a handful of episodes to air on the network.

Daft Punk disc shows duo’s live skills

DAFT *from page 8*

Daft Punk’s human-versus-robot dynamic benefits from the song structures. Robotic voice samples stutter like obstructed cogs, reinforcing song titles that usually comprise the entirety of said song’s lyrical content, like “Television Rules the Nation” — the sentiment was true in the ’90s and is even truer now.

The emotionless samples remind me of the longing seen in the group’s hour-long silent movie “Electroma” from earlier this year. That artsy side project holds true to the duo’s image, down to the studded Daft Punk logo leather jackets.

Simple yet effective lyrics add

another layer of sound to the music to suggest that humans haven’t yet lost the battle. To expect Simon and Garfunkel-esque storytelling from your dance music would be to miss the point.

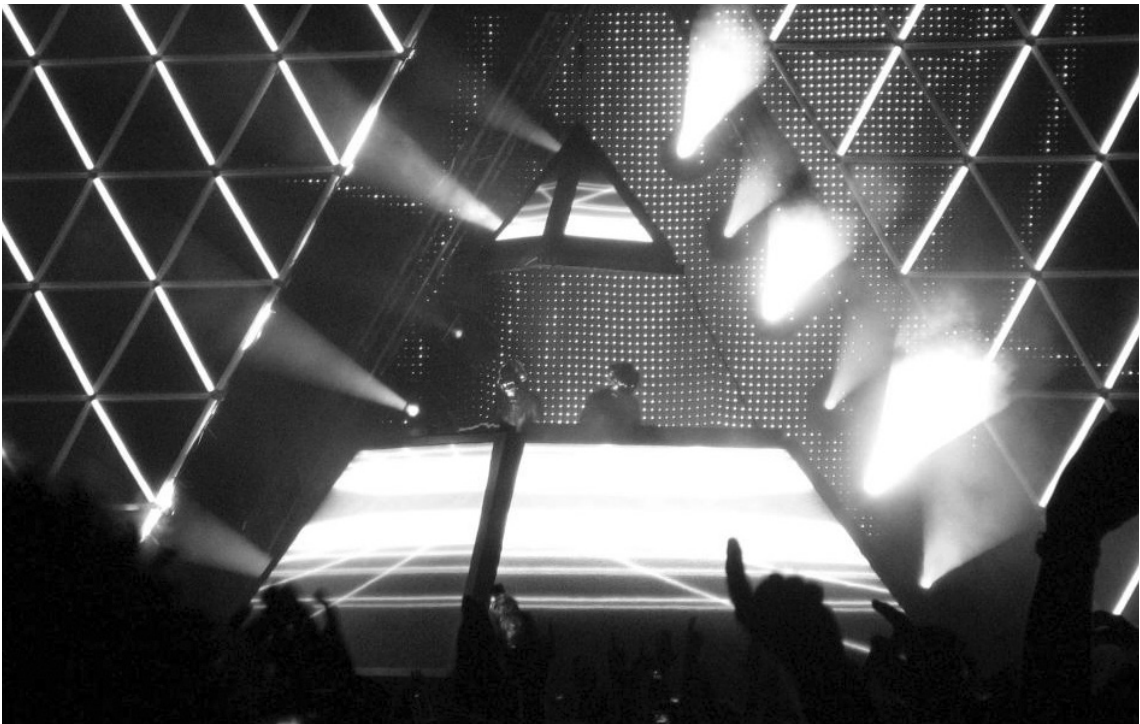
High production values create that raw feeling of pushing your way to the front of the crowd in hope of making eye-to-helmet contact with the robot suit-clad duo. Strong bass lines cue the nodding and the foot tapping. I found myself almost cheering out loud with the rumblings of the audience a few times, settling instead for an internal fist pump.

However, for all of the frenzied thumps and inventive loops on ‘Alive,’ this music will bore some listeners. It knows its audience —

largely fans of the house genre and mid-to-slow tempo dance music — and even if you fit that bill, some of the repetitive elements of ‘Alive’ may prove tiresome. Daft Punk is not a 30-piece string ensemble; it’s two guys who craft compelling electronic tunes that will all but force your foot to tap in time.

‘Alive’ offers a refreshingly mashed-up take on the group’s decade-long electronic domination and also does its best to reproduce one behemoth of a live set. Get it for your workout/jogging routine, quality party ambience or (if you’re a Daft Punk fan) for the sheer thrill of seeing old things in a new light.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO — WWW.PEONESCORNER.IT

Daft Punk’s live shows are known for their Pink Floyd-style lighting effects and giant pyramid edifice.



COURTESY PHOTO — 20TH CNETURY FOX

Arnold Schwarzenegger plays Howard Langston, a frantic parent in search of a last minute Christmas gift, in the 1996 classic “Jingle All the Way.”

Christmas movies  
that go overlooked

CHRISTMAS *from page 8*

in a much darker way (here’s a hint: Tim Allen kills Kris Kringle), but “Ernest Saves Christmas” is actually funny, earning it the final spot on my list.

The list doesn’t end there; there are loads of overlooked Christmas films, many of which you’ve probably forgotten even take place during the holidays. And they all aren’t bad either: Look at “Gremlins” and “Die Hard,” proof that some can transcend the holidays-only status of their peers. I’m sure you can find other neglected not-quite-festive treasures on your DVD and VHS racks, too.

Don’t give in to the TV stations. Embrace the unorthodox and celebrate a Christmas sans Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph. Trust me; you’ll have a much more exciting evening if you spend it with the Governor or the spawn of Satan. I know that much from experience.

Matthew Falwell is a Junior at the College. He admits that “Ernest Saves Christmas” in no way compares to the masterpiece that is “Ernest Goes to Camp.”

NEW TOWN

There’s A New Revolution In Williamsburg, Virginia.™

The BEST Place for Holiday Shopping

Special Restaurants for Special Occasions

Close to

William & Mary

The Gold bus from W&M

Serves New Town

With a new bus stop close to shops

Shopping, Dinning, Entertainment, Services

Monticello Ave and Ironbound Rd

www.NewTownWilliamsburg.com



## SPORTS IN BRIEF

## FOOTBALL

## Holmes' charges reduced to assault and battery

Campus police amended the charges filed against senior DeBrian Holmes Tuesday, formally charging the Tribe's running back with assault and battery stemming from an incident at a fraternity party over the weekend. Holmes played in three games for the Tribe this season, all starts, before sustaining a season-ending injury against Liberty University. Holmes was initially charged with maiming following a fight between College students and non-students that resulted in a one individual being knocked unconscious. Head Coach Jimmye Laycock has been out of town and was unable to be reached for comment.



## NFL FOOTBALL

## Tribe alum Tomlin and rest of Steelers take on Patriots

Former Tribe wide receiver Mike Tomlin '95, the head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, will lead his squad against the unbeaten New England Patriots in Foxboro, Mass. this Sunday. In what will likely be the most hyped regular-season contest this year, Tomlin's Steelers will attempt to end New England's 12-game winning streak and prevent the Patriots from becoming the first team since the 1972 Miami Dolphins go unbeaten in the regular season. Despite being 10.5-point underdogs, many football pundits are giving Pittsburgh much more than a fighting chance after New England has looked shaky in successive wins against the Philadelphia Eagles and Baltimore Ravens.

## CAA FOOTBALL

## Hens, Spiders each play in semifinals of FCS playoffs

The University of Richmond Spiders will take on two-time defending National Champion Appalachian State University today at 8 p.m. on ESPN2, in the semifinal round of the FCS playoffs, with a trip to Chattanooga, Tenn. for the national title game on the line. Tomorrow at 4 p.m., the University of Delaware Blue Hens will journey to take on Southern Illinois University in the other semifinal matchup. That game will be broadcast on ESPN.

—By Miles Hilder and Matt Poms, photo by Spencer Atkinson

## SCHEDULE

## Fri., Dec. 7

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

@ North Florida — 7 p.m.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

@ Longwood — 7 p.m.

## Sat., Dec. 8

## MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

@ CNU Holiday Open

— Newport News, Va.

## WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

@ CNU Holiday Open

— Newport News, Va.

## Sun., Dec. 9

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

@ Howard — 2 p.m.

## LOGO DECISION

## Teams will decide on new logo use



By JEFF DOOLEY  
Flat Hat Sports Editor

The College's new logos, unveiled by Vice President of Student Affairs Sam Sadler at yesterday's Board of Visitors meeting, may or may not be used on the uniforms of the school's athletic teams, Athletic Director Terry Driscoll said.

"There will be a choice with the home uniforms whether [coaches and teams] want to go with the new W&M logo or [if] they want to go with [the existing script Tribe logo]," Driscoll said. "For the away uniforms, there

will be a William and Mary [logo] they can use or the [new W&M logo]. On a team by team basis we kind of have to work through [a decision]."

The College now must approach the task of removing all of the former "feathers" logos from sporting venues. The NCAA will give the College until next fall to remove the old logos, now that a new logo is in place. The school will also focus on getting the new-look "W&M" in place.

"Ideally, if everything comes together, you're going to see this logo consistently across campus in the different places it's supposed to be for the fall of [2008]," Driscoll said.

The logo committee, which is made

up of students, alumni, coaches and faculty, is now turning its attention to creating a mascot for the College.

Sadler said that hopefully the new mascot will be more than just a fixture at sporting events, but rather a symbol that can complement the new logo. He cited the Wake Forest University Demon Deacons as an example of a school that did this effectively.

The logo was originally supposed to be unveiled at this October's homecoming festivities, but copyright and other issues delayed the release.



COURTESY — UNIVERSITY RELATIONS  
The College's four new logos.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 57, VCU 71



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

Junior Peter Stein attempts a layup in the Tribe's Nov. 25 victory over Houston Baptist University. The College is now 1-6.

## Tribe rallies late, but VCU's Maynor, Shuler too much

## Rams' duo combine to score 36; Schneider adds 15 for College

By CHRIS WEIDMAN  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

After closing a 17-point second-half deficit to six points late in the second half, the Tribe men's basketball team fell victim to a counter surge by the Virginia Commonwealth University Rams, losing their CAA opener 71-57 at the Siegel Center Wednesday night. The Tribe dropped to 1-5 (0-1 CAA) on the season while the Rams improved their record to 5-3 (CAA 1-0).

The College posted three players in double digits, led by sophomore guard David Schneider with 15 points and followed by senior forward Laimis Kisielius and sophomore forward Danny Sumner with 13 points each.

The Rams responded with the dynamic duo of guards Jamal Shuler and preseason All-CAA honoree Eric Maynor, who combined for 36 points. The Rams shot over 50 percent from the field to the Tribe's 40 percent to win their eleventh straight game against the College.

"[There was] great competitive fire by our kids tonight," Head Coach Tony Shaver said on the Tribe Radio Network following the game. "We had a few too many turnovers that led to transitions baskets. There are so many good athletes [on VCU]; such a high level of skill on the floor tonight. If we play that hard every night, good things have to happen to us."

The Tribe came out of the locker room strong, managing to

play step-for-step with the defending CAA champion Rams for much of the opening period. With seven minutes left in the half, the score was knotted at 17 apiece, before the Rams responded with a 19-6 run to end the opening frame and take a 36-23 lead into the locker room.

"You have got to make shots. We missed a lot of open threes," Shaver said. "Eric Maynor ... and Jamal Shuler can just plain make shots."

The Rams charged out early in the second half, increasing their lead to as much as 17. Led by strong rebounding and nine second-half points by Sumner, the College came back to close the score at 56-50 with 6 minutes and 54 seconds remaining in the game.

"[Danny Sumner] played really well," Shaver said. "Offensively, Danny does a lot of good things, [as] he continues to get better defensively he can be a really fine player. I told him before the game that we have to get him more minutes."

The Rams mounted an 11-3 run to put the game out of reach late in the fourth quarter.

The College out-rebounded VCU in the game 34-31 and outscored the Rams' bench 22-18. The Rams blocked seven shots on the night led by Larry Sanders with four, while the College managed only two rejections.

The Tribe returns to the hardwood Friday night when the team travels to Jacksonville to take on the University of North Florida. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

## FROM THE SIDELINES

## NBA age limit a bad thing for college hoops

## Matt Poms

FLAT HAT SPORTS COLUMNIST



Twelve years ago, NBA commissioner David Stern strode to a podium in Toronto, Canada, and announced that the Minnesota Timberwolves had selected 19-year-old high schooler Kevin Garnett with the fifth pick in the 1995 NBA draft. Garnett's selection opened a new era in the professional game in which the leap from the prep ranks to the pros, once considered a daunting and risky proposition, was suddenly commonplace.

In the following decade, a deluge of future stars bypassed the collegiate game. Throughout that period, a number of highly developed, future hall of fame players emerged from the high school level. However, future all-stars were overwhelmingly the exception, as the likes of immature, under-developed players were more the norm. With an increasing number of high profile flameouts occurring in recent years, David Stern enacted a change to the NBA draft eligibility requirements in 2006, decreeing that all players must be at least 19 years of age and a year removed from their high school graduation to be taken by a professional franchise.

Among the biggest benefactors of this massive change was expected to be the collegiate game. For the past decade, the NCAA had consistently been robbed of the best players, as top recruits bypassed college campuses on their way to pro arenas. With this in mind, university presidents, athletic directors and coaches alike hailed the rule change as the savior of amateur athletics.

Not all were in favor of the change, however. Legendary Texas Tech coach Bobby Knight, the all-time NCAA leader in wins, did not mince his words when asked for his thoughts on the issue in February, calling the age limit "the worst thing that's happened to college basketball since I've been coaching." Knight's opposition to the rule centers around concern for the integrity of the student-athlete, an entity which is rapidly fading in this age of lucrative endorsement deals and massive TV revenue.

Furthermore, the age limit has the potential to change major college basketball at its very core. In its first year of existence, the NCAA saw the arrival of Greg Oden and Kevin Durant, two players who overwhelmingly dominated their respective conferences and, after the season concluded, shipped off to the greener pastures of the NBA. This season, freshmen once again rule the headlines. In short, if this trend continues, college basketball will begin to revolve around one-year superstars. As these players continually spend a single season in college before jumping to the professional ranks, the college game will be in grave danger of becoming much less team oriented and more top heavy, two factors which have traditionally differentiated it from the NBA. If the trend continues, team chemistry and continuity will become sparse at the elite college level and mid-majors will no longer be able to compete.

For precisely these reasons, the NBA age limit needs to be changed. If the minimum age to declare for the draft is raised, say to that of a college junior, then the top players will spend at least three years in college, extending talent across a variety of teams. Similarly, if the age limit is repelled, the top players will once again declare for the draft out of high school, alleviating the strain on college basketball.

While the NBA Player's Association has vowed to strenuously resist any change, amending the age-limit would greatly benefit both the NCAA and NBA by providing an even, talent-laden college game and mature, developed professionals for NBA arenas.

E-mail Matt Poms at mbpoms@wm.edu.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 44, KENTUCKY 75

## Kaylor becomes College's scoring leader

## Senior sets mark with 15 points in Tuesday's blowout loss to Kentucky

By MILES HILDER  
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Senior Kyra Kaylor reached another milestone in her illustrious career Tuesday, passing Jen Sobota '03 to become the leading scorer in College history.

"It's just an amazing accomplishment for a great player and a great young lady," Head Coach Debbie Taylor said. "To do it so early in her senior season speaks loudly to her abilities. I couldn't be more proud of her and everything she has accomplished thus far."

Kaylor, a pre-season All-CAA selection, entered the season 100 points shy

of the mark set by Sobota, and needed only seven games to overtake the record. Kaylor's point total, which now stands at 1,520 after a 15-point performance against the University of Kentucky, will only grow as the season progresses.

"I think it's a big load to have off her shoulders," Taylor said. "She's such a team player that it was never a big focus for her, but it's nice [for the record] to be behind her. Now I'd like to see her just relax and play and enjoy her senior season."

The Tribe has hit a rough patch despite strong play from Kaylor, who is leading the team with 15.6 points and 7.3

rebounds per game. The College struggled to find its shooting stroke against the Wildcats, connecting on just 21.4 percent of three-point attempts and 29.6 percent overall en route to a 75-44 defeat.

"We just played poorly," Taylor said. "We had wide open shots that we missed; we didn't shoot well. Typically in those games you worry about getting crushed on the boards and you worry about a lot of ball pressure. We lost the game because we didn't score."

The loss was the Tribe's fourth in its last five games and dropped the team's record to 3-4 on the season. The College has scored no more than 64 points during

its current five-game funk, something that will have to change for the Tribe to be successful once conference play begins.

Coach Taylor plans to use the two-week exam break to help turn things around. The Tribe will be able to practice during the period, but will not play in any games.

"This is a very important two weeks for our team," Taylor said. "People don't understand how young we are. Players like [sophomore] Tiffany Benson can make a lot of progress over two weeks, and that will help us this season."